Man accused of smuggling 4.9 lbs of 'ice' seeks $3K bail. PAGE 2
IPI's unlicensed key employees a puzzler for CCC. PAGE 3

Hafa Adai!

$1

# Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXXII, Issue No. 219
**THURSDAY** NOVEMBER 3, 2022
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**ANNUAL TRADITION** JUSTINE NAUTA
Community members return to their spots after receiving the Holy Communion during a Mass held at the Mount Carmel cemetery yesterday as part of the commemoration of All Souls Day. The annual observance of All Saints and All Souls Day attracts many residents to cemeteries across the island on a day that's meant to honor beloved family members who have already passed away.

# Seven workers settle with IPI

Seven Chinese construction workers executed a settlement agreement this month to resolve their forced labor claims against Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC. This brings the total amount paid to the workers by the two Chinese construction firms who employed them and IPI to nearly $6.9 million.

» **Total settlement reaches nearly $6.9 million**

The plaintiffs filed their original complaint in the U.S. District Court for the NMI in December 2018, and

See SEVEN on Page 4

## Free rice distribution today

The CNMI Office of the Governor, through the Office of Grants Management and State Clearinghouse, will be giving out 50-lb sacks of short or long grain rice today, Nov. 3, 2022, in a drive-thru event for Saipan residential households.

**DISTRIBUTION SCHEDULE**
**SAIPAN:** Nov. 3, 2022, 8:30am
**TINIAN:** Nov. 5, 2022, 9am, Tinian Youth Center.
**ROTA:** Nov. 5, 2022, 11am, Sinapalo Youth Center

The food security outreach program will be held at the

See FREE on Page 4

## COVID bivalent boosters for 5-11 years old now available

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. will now be offering the updated (bivalent) COVID-19 booster shots to children ages 5-11 years old.

This move is being done under the guidance of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Food and Drug Administration.

CDC recommends that everyone ages 5 years and older get an updated COVID-19 bivalent booster, when eligible.

Depending on their age, children can get either Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech vaccines for their booster based on the following eligibility criteria:

■ Children 5 years old can get a Pfiz-

See COVID on Page 4

## 5 arrested for illegal entry to Guam

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The U.S. District Court for the NMI previously issued arrest warrants for five individuals—each one facing a count of conspiracy to transport illegal aliens—for illegally entering Guam using a boat.

Last month, District Court for the NMI issued five arrest warrants for Sun Xiaojuan,

See ARRESTED on Page 4

## INSIDE

**LOCAL**
Thomas W. Krise, the 11th president of the University of Guam, will retire in August 2023.

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**LOCAL**
Bourbon Street Bar and Cafe wants to embody the New Orleans vibe and bring the party to Saipan.

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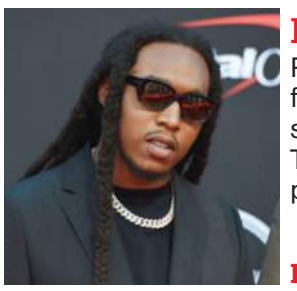

**LIFE & STYLE**
Police said they have few leads in the fatal shooting of rapper Takeoff outside a private party.

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# Local

# Man accused of smuggling 4.9 lbs of 'ice' seeks $3K bail

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
Kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A man accused of smuggling nearly five pounds of "ice" or methamphetamine into the CNMI through the U.S Postal Service has asked the Superior Court to modify his bail and allow him to post less than 1% of his initial bail of $1 million.

Zhang Yuzhu, who was arrested in March for allegedly trying to smuggle 4.9 lbs of methamphetamine from California through USPS, is asking the Superior Court to allow him to post just $3,000 of his initial $1 million bail so he could be temporarily released.

According to a motion made by assistant public defender Vina Seelam, her client is asking the Superior Court to modify his bail from the initial $1 million to $300,000 and allow him to post 10% of the modified bail to be released.

However, assistant attorney general Steven Kessel, who represents the government, opposed the request and said the court should deny Zhang's application for bail modification.

"The Commonwealth believes the defendant presents a significant risk of fleeing the jurisdiction if released on bail pending further proceedings in this case," Kessel said.

Zhang, who is facing charges of importation of contraband, trafficking of a controlled substance, and illegal possession of a controlled substance, is currently in the custody of the Department of Corrections.

He previously denied all charges filed against him.

According to *Saipan Tribune* archives, Zhang allegedly attempted to smuggle 4.9 lbs of methamphetamine from California through the U.S. Postal Service. The seized contraband has a street value of approximately $700,000.

The "ice" was discovered at approximately 10am on March 19 during a Customs routine inspection of a large parcel addressed to Zhang. Inside the parcel, Customs officer Franklin Sablan said he saw three wooden cases containing chinaware. Upon further inspection of the wooden cases, Sablan noticed a square object wrapped in duct tape under the chinaware inside the wooden case. While examining the square object, the officer noticed white crystalline substance spilling into the wooden case.

After procuring the parcel and its contents as evidence, the items were transported to the Customs office at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport for processing and testing, where it turned out positive for methamphetamine.

## Torres meets with Guam GSA's Untalan

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres meets with Brandy Untalan, the Customer Service Director representing the General Services Administration, Federal Acquisition Service, and Customer Accounts & Stakeholder Engagement Division in Guam. OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and CNMI Finance Secretary David DLG. Atalig met last Friday with Brandy Untalan, the Customer Service director representing the General Services Administration, Federal Acquisition Service, and Customer Accounts & Stakeholder Engagement Division in Guam.

Untalan is responsible for strategic account management and regional coordination efforts in Guam, which supports the military, federal agencies, and state/local customers on the island. Additionally, she provides regional program support to the CNMI, Australia, and American Samoa, along with U.S. department activities and non-governmental organizations stationed throughout the Philippines and the Pacific Islands.

Untalan shared with Torres that over the duration of her visit in the Marianas, she met with CNMI government departments and agencies to not only discuss GSA contracts and services that they can provide to our CNMI government, but also to provide GSA training to employees last Wednesday and Friday. She also participated in the Marianas Working Group Tech Symposium as a speaker, where she exhibited a vendor presentation.

"I would like to thank Director Untalan for visiting the CNMI to share her expertise and meet with our government departments and agencies, and for participating in the Marianas Working Group Tech Symposium last week as a speaker. These partnerships not only with our federal partners, but also from within our neighboring islands in the region, are important for the CNMI. We discussed priorities for the CNMI, which include expanding opportunities and developing a more sustainable government system in regard to information technology and security," said Torres. ***(PR)***

# IPI's unlicensed key employees a puzzler for CCC

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Casino Commission is in a quandary as to how to deal with key employees of Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC who are unlicensed by the CCC, yet are still getting paid by IPI.

These employees—referred to in the business as "Casino Key Employees"—are casino employees who are involved in operation in a supervisory role. The rule requires that these employees be licensed by the CCC but that is not happening at the moment.

However, CCC executive director Andrew Yeom recommended to the CCC board during their monthly meeting last week that they should "stand down" on this matter for now.

Yeom said the CNMI's gaming law does not allow these unlicensed CKE individuals from being paid. "Clearly, this is in violation of our gaming law as well as our regulation," he said.

However, he pointed out, they must be mindful that there is a labor law that protects even undocumented workers in that they generally have the same wage and hour rights as other workers.

Thus, Yeom said, the same federal wage and hour laws that apply to authorized workers generally apply to persons working without legal immigration status.

In this case, he said, these are legitimate workers in terms of immigration status who provided their labor, regardless of the gaming license.

"This is where I see that our local law may be in conflict with the federal labor law. That one says you must pay versus the other one says that you shall not," the executive director said.

Therefore, Yeom said, they must be careful about how they deal with this delicate situation.

He said IPI should not have put themselves in this predicament where they are faced with breaking a law one way or another when they pay these individuals' salaries, while they have not paid the regulatory fee, thus their gaming license applications for these people remain in incomplete status.

"Sure, this can be a subject for an enforcement action during the normal business environment. Unfortunately, we are not," Yeom said.

He noted that IPI's exclusive casino license is currently suspended and the U.S. District Court for the NMI's preliminary injunction has been ordered upon CCC.

The executive director believes that they should forward a written warning to IPI to make sure that they are aware they are in violation of the gaming law and regulation by employing the CKEs without obtaining the CCC licenses.

"That way, we are not ignoring the symptoms. At the same time, we are treating this like treating to stop coughing or a fever when you have a common cold as the primary root cause," Yeom said.

He said in this case, IPI's unpaid regulatory fee is the root cause of the problems.

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• STK: 17P482
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| STOCK # | YEAR | MODEL | KBB | SALE PRICE |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10P468B | 2020 | MAZDA CX-3 SPORT | $24,049 | $19,995 |
| 20R292 | 2020 | HYUNDAI ELANTRA SPORT | $24,274 | $19,995 |
| 18HS985B | 2019 | HONDA ACCORD SPORT | $31,170 | $29,995 |
| 22H195A | 2016 | MAZDA6 GT | $18,363 | $17,995 |
| 21H047A | 2018 | HYUNDAI KONA SPORT | $19,995 | $16,995 |
| 16P435 | 2016 | MAZDA CX-5 TOURING | $23,370 | $19,995 |
| 14P342B | 2016 | TOYOTA COROLLA LE | $18,277 | $16,995 |
| 17P370 | 2017 | TOYOTA COROLLA SE | $20,726 | $16,995 |
| 16P487A | 2017 | KIA SPORTAGE LX | $19,269 | $15,995 |
| 18P416 | 2018 | TOYOTA RAV4 LE SPORT | $31,648 | $24,995 |

| STOCK # | YEAR | MODEL | KBB | SALE PRICE |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 15P498 | 2015 | SCION FRS COUPE | $22,405 | $26,995 |
| 22H183A | 2011 | FORD MUSTANG CONVERTIBLE | $15,475 | $8,995 |
| 21H068A | 2016 | HONDA CIVIC SEDAN | $14,455 | $18,995 |
| ~~16P374~~ | ~~2016~~ | ~~HYUNDAI GENESIS~~ SOLD | ~~$23,203~~ | ~~$19,995~~ |
| 16P467 | 2015 | TOYOTA RAV4 LE | $25,989 | $22,995 |
| 18P504 | 2018 | TOYOTA 4RUNNER LIMITED | $45,875 | $42,995 |
| 17HS1036 | 2017 | FORD MUSTANG CONV. | N/A | $24,995 |
| 17P496 | 2017 | MITSUBISHI LANCER ES | N/A | $21,995 |
| 16P446 | 2016 | MAZDA3 SPORT | $18,937 | $17,995 |
| 18R289 | 2018 | FORD F150 PICK UP TRUCK | $29,854 | $24,995 |

# CEC is prepared in case of a runoff election

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

**» 825 voted yesterday in the CNMI**

Commonwealth Election Commission executive director Kayla S. Igitol said Tuesday that they are prepared in case of a runoff election for the top two gubernatorial candidates.

Igitol also said last night that 730 voted at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe, Saipan, on Wednesday, 37 on Tinian, and 58 on Rota, for a total of 825 votes. Yesterday was the second day of the seven-day early voting period in the CNMI.

Igitol said the CEC board will decide on the date for a runoff race if it comes to that. A runoff election is usually held 14 days after the CEC board certifies the election results.

Igitol

Igitol said the CEC will hold a runoff election if no gubernatorial candidate gets more than 50%, or more than half, of the total votes cast and counted.

She said the two top vote getters will go head to head at the runoff election.

Igitol said they anticipate that there will be runoff election in this election.

There was no runoff election at the Nov. 6, 2018, general election, because only two teams ran for governor and lieutenant governor. Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and his running mate, then-Senate President Arnold I. Palacios, won over former governor Juan N. Babauta and his running mate, former Public School System commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan, by a huge margin.

During the Nov. 4, 2014, four-way general elections, Eloy S. Inos and his running mate, Ralph DLG Torres, garnered a total of 6,342 votes, while the tandem of Heinz S. Hofschneider and Ray N. Yumul came second with a total of 4,501 votes. This paved the way for the second runoff election in the CNMI on Nov. 21, 2014.

Hofschneider won the general elections in 2009, but failed to gain a majority, paving a runoff against then-incumbent governor Benigno R. Fitial. Finial eventually won the runoff by a margin of 370 votes.

# Admin leave OK'd for non-essential employees for Nov. 2

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres approved yesterday the granting of administrative leave for non-essential employees of the Executive Branch as the CNMI celebrated All Souls Day.

Torres

In a memorandum addressed to all department and activity heads, Torres authorized the non-essential employees to take an administrative leave after 2pm yesterday.

"Today, we dedicate our time [toward] remembering our loved ones who have… departed. Life is precious, and it is important that we celebrate the lives of those who are no longer with us," the governor said.

He asked people to spend time with their family and friends as they honor the resting souls of all those who they "loved in this lifetime, as well as the resting souls of the unborn and the unknown."

"Have a safe and blessed All Souls' Day, Marianas!" Torres said.

Roman Catholics and other Christian denominations in the CNMI traditionally visit cemeteries on All Saints Day on Nov. 1 and on All Souls Day on Nov. 2 to offer prayers and remembrance for deceased friends, relatives, and family members.

## SEVEN

*From Page 1*

an amended complaint was filed in March 2019. In addition to IPI, the defendants included MCC International Saipan Ltd. Co., a subsidiary of a Chinese state-owned conglomerate, and Gold Mantis Construction Decoration (CNMI), LLC, a subsidiary of a company that is being traded on the Shenzhen Stock Exchange. The two construction firms previously described their work on the Saipan project as contributing to the "One Belt, One Road"—the signature foreign policy initiative of Chinese President Xi Jinping at the time.

MCC and Gold Mantis reached a settlement with the plaintiffs during the discovery process. The court entered a default against IPI for its persistent refusal to provide the requested evidence. In May 2021, Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona then issued a default judgment against IPI for more than $5.4 million based on the plaintiffs' forced labor claims under the federal Trafficking Victims Protection Act, comprised of $2.95 million in compensatory damages and an additional $2.95 million in punitive damages. (The court then subtracted the amounts recovered from earlier settlements between the plaintiffs and Gold Mantis and MCC—the two Chinese contractors on the project.) The court described IPI's mistreatment of the workers as "appalling," and noted that "IPI was the driving force" behind the "egregious conditions" faced by the plaintiffs, all "while benefiting from" that exploitation.

The plaintiffs had paid high recruitment fees to go from China to Saipan based on false promises of high wages and good conditions. After arriving, the plaintiffs regularly worked over 12 hours per day, without rest, and sometimes performed 24-hour shifts. They were paid below the minimum wage, or sometimes nothing at all, and housed in unsanitary, overcrowded dormitories where rats crawled on their bodies. The defendants arranged for the plaintiffs to enter Saipan as "tourists" instead of under a lawful temporary work visa, took away their passports, instructed them to hide when government officials came to inspect the worksite or dormitories, and refused to take them to the hospital when they suffered injuries. A supervisor threatened to kill the workers if they complain or disobey him. The casino also denied a federal safety inspector access to the worksite, despite reports of a high number of injuries.

The plaintiffs were Tianming Wang, Dong Han, Yongjun Meng, Liangcai Sun, Youli Wang, Qingchun Xu, and Duxin Yang. They were represented by Aaron Halegua of Aaron Halegua, PLLC, an attorney based in New York City, and Bruce Berline of the Law Office of Bruce Berline, an attorney based on Saipan. The plaintiffs' counsel was also assisted by Times Wang of North River Law PLLC. ***(PR)***

**A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com**

## ARRESTED

*From Page 1*

Zhang Liangxian, Gao Bingxing, Jin Suling, and Zhang Weifu, for allegedly chipping in to buy a boat that they later used to transport themselves and four others to Guam to avoid immigration.

The four others aboard the boat to Guam were Liu Shougao, Ma Wenliang, Zhu Xiaohui, and one unnamed Chinese national. The four were named as defendants in this case, but no arrest warrants were issued for them.

Yesterday, the U.S. government, through assistant U.S. Attorney Albert S. Flores Jr., filed a motion for order of detention pending trial for one of the five arrestees, Gao Bingxing. Flores stated in his motion that Gao is a flight risk and he is required to show up to his arraignment today.

Meanwhile, the court has detained Sun Xiaojuan, Jin Suling, and Zhang Weifu, who are also set to appear in court today for their arraignments.

As for Zhang Liangxian, court documents did not mention whether he has been detained. It is presumed that the defendant is out on his own recognizance.

According to the indictment against the defendants, the defendants pooled their money together to purchase a boat for $32,000 on the island of Saipan on or about July 29, 2022. The boat was approximately 26 feet long, with a white fiberglass hull and motorized propeller.

"The boat was used by the defendants, who did not have lawful immigration status, for transportation from the CNMI to Guam on or about July 31, 2022, because the Chinese citizens wanted to avoid immigration processes that was anticipated if travel was completed by commercial airplane. Authorities located the boat in the Hagatna Boat Basin in Guam after it came ashore to Guam from the CNMI with all Chinese citizens on July 31, 2022," the indictment stated.

If found guilty, the United States wants the defendants to forfeit any conveyance used to carry out the offense they are being charged for, "including any vessel, vehicle, or aircraft used in the commission of the offense of which the defendants are convicted; and any property real or personal—that constitutes, or is derived from or is traceable to proceeds obtained directly or indirectly from the commission of the offense of which the defendants are convicted; or that is used to facilitate, or is intended to be used to facilitate, the commission of the offense of which the defendants are convicted," the indictment stated.

## COVID

*From Page 1*

er-BioNTech booster, while children ages 6–11 years can get either a Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna bivalent booster;

■ This updated booster is currently offered as a single booster dose for children ages 5-11 years old;

■ Children get the booster at least two months since their last COVID-19 primary series or monovalent booster shot.

Updated COVID-19 vaccines add omicron BA.4 and BA.5 spike protein components to the current vaccine composition, helping to restore protection that has waned since previous vaccination and targeting recent omicron variants that are more transmissible and immune-evading.

Individuals are up to date with their COVID-19 vaccines if they have completed a COVID-19 vaccine primary series and received the most recent booster dose recommended for them by the CDC.

No booster doses are currently available for individuals below 5 years of age.

Eligible individuals can obtain a COVID-19 primary or booster shot by calling the CHCC Immunization Program at (670) 236-8745 for scheduling and information.

COVID-19 vaccines are also available at the following locations:

■ CHCC Children's Clinic, Women's Clinic, and Family Care Clinic, call (670) 234-8951

■ Medical Associates of the Pacific, call (670) 323-9000

■ Marianas Medical Center, call (670) 234-3926

■ Kagman Isla Community Health Center call 670-256-5242

■ Tinian Health Center, call (670) 433-9233

■ Tinian Isla Health Center call 670-433-4750

■ Rota Health Center, call (670) 532-9461

COVID-19 vaccines have undergone and continue to undergo the most intensive safety monitoring in U.S. history and are available for children as young as 6 months old. Side effects after getting a COVID-19 vaccine can vary from person to person. They generally go away in a few days. Some people experience a little discomfort and can continue to go about their day. Others have side effects that affect their ability to do daily activities. Even if a person does not experience any side effects, their body is building protection. ***(CHCC)***

## FREE

*From Page 1*

following locations from 8:30am to 4:30pm:

1. Koblerville Youth Center
2. Garapan Fishing Base
3. Kagman Community Center

About 1,000 to 1,250 sacks of 50-lbs rice will be given out per location.

To avail of a sack of rice, residential homeowners must present a photocopy of a valid government-issued identification card and submit a hard copy of their most recent Commonwealth Utilities Corp. utility billing. Digital copies or electronic formats will not be accepted. There is a limit of one sack of rice per CUC utility billing. The photocopies of the CUC billings collected will not be returned. Sub-metered households are allowed, but these residents should submit a photocopy of the master CUC meter account bill. Furthermore, the Office of Grants & State Clearinghouse will be tracking CUC account numbers to prevent repeats.

The public is advised to have all documents ready, expect traffic congestion, have enough space in your vehicle for the rice, and to extend courtesy and patience to others while waiting in the drive-thru event. No walk-ins will be entertained for this event.

With limited supply for this event, items will be available for distribution on a first-come, first-served basis throughout the specified time only, while supplies last.

Due to the continuing threat of COVID-19, the public is required to observe and comply with health and safety protocols. Masks are required at all times during the program event hours of operations. All vehicle operators and passengers must remain in their vehicles at all times and must follow all posted event signs and obey all event traffic flow signs.

Separately, 500 rice vouchers will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis to walk-ins who apply at the Office of Grants Management & State Clearinghouse on Monday, Nov. 7, 2022.

The rice voucher can only be used at New XO Market on Middle Road, Saipan, with a validity date of Nov. 9, 2022, to Nov. 30, 2022.

To avail of a rice voucher, the same requirements apply: residential homeowners must submit a photocopy of a valid government-issued identification card and submit a photocopy of their most recent CUC billing.

Rice distribution for Tinian will be held on Saturday, Nov. 5, 2022, at 9am at the Tinian Youth Center. For Rota, the rice distribution drive will be held at the Sinapalo Youth Center at 11am on Nov. 5, 2022.

For more information, contact the Office of Grants Management and State Clearinghouse at (670)664-9994. ***(PR)***

Working with the Marine Corps Base Camp Blaz and the Commonwealth Bureau of Military Affairs, first lady Diann Torres, second from right, helps launch the 2022 Toys for Tots Campaign in the CNMI.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

# First lady Diann Torres launches Toys for Tots campaign

Working in partnership with the Marine Corps Base's Camp Blaz in Guam, first lady Diann Torres has launched the 2022 Toys for Tots Campaign in the CNMI.

Torres recently met with the Commonwealth Bureau of Military Affairs, the Marine Corps Base Camp Blaz Team, and Capt. Kimberly Hofschneider, who is the Indo-Pacific Command liaison to the CNMI, to kick start this year's Toys for Tots campaign in the CNMI.

Since 2019, Torres has been spearheading the Toys for Tots Campaign, in partnership with the Commonwealth Bureau of Military Affairs, various government agencies, and non-profit organizations with increasing toys collections in the CNMI every year.

Marines from MCB Camp Blaz visited various businesses and government partners on Saipan, Tinian and Rota to start the campaign during the first week of October and would like to thank the Lady Diann Torres Foundation, the Commonwealth Bureau of Military Affairs, the Tinian Mayor's Office, the Rota Mayor's Office, Saipan Chamber of Commerce, Associated Students of the Northern Marianas College and participating businesses and government agencies.

"The generosity and holiday spirit of our CNMI local community is what makes our local Toys for Tots campaign successful, and it would not have been possible without the continued support from everyone," said U.S. Marine Corps Col. Christopher Bopp, the MCB Camp Blaz commanding officer. "I would like to personally thank and recognize all of our donors and partners for their generosity and look forward to seeing the impact we can make in this upcoming season."

Torres, for her part, thanked MCB Camp Blaz for their continued partnership with the Lady Diann Torres Foundation. "I thank our Marines partners at MCB Camp Blaz for their continued partnership with our foundation and we look forward to another successful Toys for Tots drive and to sharing this year's Christmas spirit with our children," she said.

Last year, 3,002 toys were collected on Saipan, going to children in need to help bring the joy of Christmas and send a message of hope during the holiday season. At the conclusion of the 2021 campaign, a total of 9,241 toys were distributed throughout the islands of Guam, Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

Torres invites members of the community to participate in this year's toy campaign.

"This time of the year is an occasion that our children always excitedly look forward to and I am personally inviting members of our community across the CNMI to join us again this year to bring joy to our children," said Torres.

"It's amazing to be able to look back and to see how much the Toys for Tots program has grown and the impact we are able to make in the community," said Maj Diann Rosenfeld, the Toys for Tots lead coordinator for Guam and the CNMI. "Each year we are able to help more children in our area because of the increased participation from not only the individuals who donate, but also the businesses who serve as collection points."

The Toys for Tots Campaign is now accepting newly purchased, unwrapped toys at any of the following drop-off locations:

■ Lady Diann Torres Foundation: (670) 284-3970

■ Commonwealth Bureau of Military Affairs: (670) 785-0390

■ CNMI Women's Affairs Office: (670) 783-5477

The drive-thru distribution of toys will be at the Office of the Governor on Capital Hill on Friday, Dec. 16, 2022, beginning at 6pm until supplies last.

The Marine Toys for Tots Foundation is a not-for-profit charity with a 75-year history. Last year the Marine Toys for Tots Program fulfilled the holiday hopes and dreams of 8.8 million less fortunate children in over 800 communities nationwide by distributing 22.4 million toys. Since 1947 over 289 million children have been assisted and 627 million toys distributed. For more information, visit www.toysfortots.org. ***(PR)***

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# Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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## EDITORIAL

# It's time to reevaluate our relationship with Riyadh

Sometimes, it takes a jolt to make you see a relationship in a new light. With the always-complicated U.S.-Saudi dynamic, that moment may have arrived.

The Saudis have long relied on the fact that they can peddle themselves as a key regional counterbalance to Iranian aggression and a global oil powerhouse to act as they please, sometimes openly interfering with U.S. interests with the conviction that there won't really be consequences in the bilateral relationship.

They have long been evasive and cavalier about suspicions that Saudi officials had links to the 9/11 hijackers, 15 of whom were from the kingdom. While U.S. officials decry potential war crimes committed by Russia in Ukraine, the Saudis have inflicted mass civilian damage and casualties in Yemen with protest from Congress but insufficient pushback from presidential administrations. Four years after Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman ordered the dismembering of U.S.-based Washington Post journalist Jamal Khashoggi, he has yet to fess up to his role, only vaguely acknowledging that "it happened under my watch."

Throughout, U.S. officials have treated the unfortunate but necessary alliance as a close friendship, approving massive weapons sales and largely avoiding any blunt criticism. The appeasement seems to have won little leverage, as the Saudis led the oil-producing OPEC+ coalition to announce it would massively cut oil production targets despite repeated pleading from the U.S. not to. The move will likely raise energy prices and empower Russia's oil sector at a time when it needs the revenues to continue its disastrous war, prompting President Joe Biden to finally issue some warnings about a serious U.S. response. The kingdom responded to these protestations by getting cozier with China.

It is undeniable that some security cooperation with Saudi Arabia is crucial to counter Iran. Yet at a moment when Iran is being roiled by internal turmoil turning its attention inward, and U.S. energy production just keeps growing, we should wonder what we're getting from this relationship, and what some real consequences might look like for a regime used to default U.S. support.

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# Trust in what you can see

**By RALPH DLG TORRES**
*Special to the* Saipan Tribune

*Ralph DLG Torres is the governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. He, together with Sen. Vinnie F. Sablan, are the NMI Republican Party's candidates for governor and lieutenant governor, respectively.*

Our democracy will showcase its strength and resilience this week as early voting opens and we all count down to Election Day on Nov. 8, 2022. The people of this great Commonwealth are presented with many candidates who wish to serve this community and I am thankful to all those who have put their names and hearts into answering the call to service. I, along with my running mate, Vinnie Flores Sablan, have also chosen to put our names forward for the highest seats in our government and I would like to address the community to provide our reasons why we feel this election is so important for our islands.

Trust is a word that is being thrown around much this election. Candidates across the board are discussing trust in different ways. They are asking the public to trust that old ways of our government will return. They ask to put the trust of the people behind negativity and disparagements without solutions.

I have always stood by my record and ask that we look to what results have each candidate brought toward our shared goal of advancing our islands forward. Results you can see cannot be spun, especially when we see it in our everyday lives. Results that people can truly trust.

I believe our greatest successes over the last four years have been a historic demonstration of the unlimited, dramatic, immense power of yes.

When a young college graduate returns to the Commonwealth filled with the urge to give back to this community and looks for the opportunity to do so, saying yes unleashes their potential to become a change agent that drives our islands forward.

When a small business owner looks to the community that she serves and wishes to bring her experience and insight to improve how her government supports businesses like hers, saying yes builds a stronger system for all of us and makes her a part of the government that represents her.

When a Filipino citizen who has labored for these islands all his adult life building our infrastructure with his sweat and blood, making these islands his home, looks to the community he and his family love as their own, and asks if there will be a place for them in the future here, saying yes sparks a fire to advocate for all those who call these islands home to the highest ranks of our government.

When a young athlete seeks to choose competition, sportsmanship, and teamwork over the dangers of drug abuse or crime, saying yes to supporting his passion and dreams for success on the field gives him and all our athletes the foundation of confidence, and discipline that will see their success in whatever they choose to do in life.

Simply saying YES has unlocked so much within us over these years.

We have made the choice to not go backwards, and not hide in fear over the criticisms that are inevitable when you try and do something big.

Dreaming big and doing the hard work and see their success is what we chose.

We chose not to have transportation limit our people from going to work, to school, or to the hospital and asked why not put our hearts into developing the CNMI's first public transit system, the public transit system that is the most modern and well-managed in Micronesia through the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority. This public transit system has grown to support the changing needs of our community. The Demand Response Service saw 14,735 trips provided last year alone, with 3,958 trips given to passengers with mobility equipped devices and provided 300 transit passes to support the needs of PSS' Cooperative Edu-

*See TRUST on Next Page*

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# TRUST

*From Page 8*

cation program, giving our students access to transportation to get on-the-job training. We have invested more of our resources to expanding the fixed-route system with $600,000 to continue their efforts through the community.

We looked at the heartbreak of families suffering from addiction and substance abuse and dreamed of a community that recognized addiction as an illness and not a crime in itself. But we didn't just hope for it, we made it a reality, and together established the CNMI's first ever in-patient substance abuse treatment facility currently operating out of the HOPE (Hinemlu O'hala Para Enteramenti) Recovery Center.

And we are seeing success. Through this program in the last year alone, four graduates have gone on to acquire new homes, four secured gainful employment, and two earned their high school diploma through the Adult Basic Education program at the Northern Marianas College.

We did not look to the world's largest military and their plans for bombing our islands of Pagan and Tinian and give in to our fears of our inadequacy. We asked our nation's federal government directly why the voice, dreams, aspiration, and lives of the people of these islands can't matter in the important conversations related to our national security. We stood and asked why not treat the security of our people—the security to our lives on the land we call home—as a critical part of our nation's wellbeing. Through these efforts we have succeeded in ensuring there will be no bombing of Pagan and no bombing of Tinian.

Through the persistence of our Department of Public Works and the collaboration of our agencies and departments, this administration has paved more roads than any single administration before us, finalizing Isa Drive, repairing Beach Road, and securing the monumental connection of the Route 36 Cross Island Connection.

We saw the creation of new parks and green spaces, with families, children and visitors seeing life brought to new spaces like the Governor Inos Peace Park and the San Vicente Children's Park.

We have planned for our future, charting our next era of prosperity through the hard work of the Office of Planning and Development and the publication of the first ever CNMI Comprehensive Sustainable Development Plan.

We have retained landmark investors who have contributed so much to our development like the Hyatt Regency Saipan, welcomed new and exciting additions to our business community through the Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan, and saw the reopening of our tourism industry through partners like the beautiful Kensington Hotel Saipan.

We have competed for and secured the largest amount of competitive grant funding in recent history, with $13 million secured for the revitalization of Garapan, over $100 million for a brand-new, energy-efficient, and state of the art campus for Northern Marianas College, the expansion of education and training institutions for the Northern Marianas Technical Institute, the development of our sports and culture through the $21-million Oleai Sports and Cultural Complex, and the once-in-a-generation advancement to the infrastructure of the government to support economic development through the Economic Resiliency Center.

We have spurred economic recovery, survived historic collapse and have set the groundwork for our second great resurgence with the historic relationship we have developed with South Korea, and the new partnership we have gained with Japan. We have expanded our ability to take charge of our development with the creation of the Commonwealth Economic Development Authority and empower our agencies and community to take part in ensuring the success of the hundreds of millions of dollars we have been provided to upgrade our infrastructure.

This new era will be driven by the newest infrastructure we have ever seen. Today, there is more power being generated by renewable energy than ever before with solar powering our hospital, our homes, government offices, and our schools. We have finally reached our renewable portfolio standard of 20% under this administration and we will do what is necessary to go even farther.

We have invested into our utilities with the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. driving forward and acquiring the first modern engine for our power plant since 1991. And for the first time ever, the goal of 24-hour water across our villages will be a reality.

Twenty-four-hour potable water will take more than $100 million to secure, but we have made greater strides than any other time in our history and are committed to securing the resources to make it happen.

The past four years have been a concerted effort to untangle decades of overlapping and conflicting rules impacting the ability for even the most knowledgeable individuals to find opportunity here. I am proud to say this journey toward finding a solution that would see government inefficiency being one less hurdle for an entrepreneur will finally be realized.

The new Energov e-government platform launching this year will bring the power of technology to the way in which the government interacts with its people. The capabilities to streamline permits and business licensure through an online portal have been around for ages, but it is this administration that has put the focus on making it a reality and finally bringing the CNMI government into the 21st century two decades into it.

We are keeping our streets the safest in the Marianas. We have made critical investments to our public safety tripling the number of officers serving our community and ensuring their first increase in compensation in more than 20 years.

We have done all we can to set the stage for the future of our islands in the post-pandemic world and beyond but have brought with us the lessons of our past, our history, our culture into the modern story of the Marianas.

We have put our Chamorro and Refaluwash culture at the center of the identity we are marketing to the world. Through new programs and initiatives, and partnerships between our tourism stakeholders and cultural assets in Indigenous and Carolinian Affairs Offices we are in the driver seat of showing the world who we are. And who we are… is beautiful.

And we chose on Day 1 to commit to ensuring that we did all we could to make 100% pensions for our retirees a priority, asking ourselves why not do what is necessary to live up to the promises we have made to our retirees, and going further, making the hard decisions to ensure that our retirees have received their FULL pension benefits every single month since I came into office.

We made all these choices because if we don't, who will?

We do this because we believe not just in these islands, but the idea of the Marianas. That our forefathers had a dream for future generations to inherit a Commonwealth that will welcome their new skills and passion for these islands. We have operated these past four years with the youngest generation of public leaders in our history.

I am proud to be the youngest governor in our nation. Yet despite my age I remain the most senior governor within both the U.S. territories and the Association of Western Governors. These past years of developing and placing our next generation of leaders throughout our government tells a similar story. Proud young men and women are now serving in more boards and commissions and in director and leadership levels than ever before. Our founders dreamed of future generations taking the lead and through our efforts they are.

We have so much to be proud of in our islands. Some with ulterior motives would want you to look around hide your pride for your home. Don't. Together we have done so much. We have made these islands stronger together through public private partnerships that have brought the private sector and government together to beautify and transform our public spaces. We have seen record rates of economic growth, having the highest rates of growth in the world for two consecutive years. We have encouraged aspiring entrepreneurs to take charge in the private sector through programs like BOOST. Workers today are earning more on average than ever before with per hourly wages increasing 65% since I became lieutenant governor in 2014. And we kept our community safe from the onslaught of disasters and a global pandemic.

The pandemic collapsed our economy and impacted the lives of every individual living here. And we remained safe. Through this, we were fortunate to live in this great country and to be a part of national relief efforts of the federal government. The resources we received through CARES Act and ARPA supported incomes, our safety, and our ability to operate this government.

And we took steps to ensure *everyone* received support. We lead the charge, issuing $46.97 *million* in direct payments to 27,000 families, helped to offset the rising costs of fuel through vouchers to 12,000 homes to offset your energy bills, and issued $287 million directly to individuals to approximately 20,000 individuals whose employment was impacted by the pandemic.

I look at all the disasters that we have faced and I think of how we have overcome them together in a short period of time and along the way I learned how to best take care of our people.

Through these disasters, I have learned how to respond, how to keep our people safe. We have built our government to be the most prepared group of public servants in the nation. Together we have proven not just our resilience against disaster, but our strength to stand against the greatest threats our planet can force against us. Our community stands firm against the onslaught of nature.

These are the facts of these last years that give the people an opportunity to look around and measure trust by the results we have achieved—together.

If you have a family member whose loved ones rely on their retirement benefits to survive, we have made the difficult decisions to keep your pensions whole.

If you are an aspiring entrepreneur looking for support to start and grow your business, we have supported this economy to ensure it revives and grows to welcome your dreams.

If you are a child of a CW-1 worker searching for who will advocate for your family, we have built the relationships with the federal government through the only two successful 902 consultations and congressional advocacy to achieve amendments to federal immigration law, regardless of political affiliation because we believe we can all call the CNMI home.

If you see the changing climate around us and worry about the impact of the next disaster, we have shown we can respond, recover, and support our community during crisis to save lives and rebuild our community back even stronger.

If you live on Tinian, Rota, or the Northern Islands seeking for opportunity to thrive on your home island, we have achieved historic increases to interisland transport and established the CNMI's first federal marine highway that will unlock programs to decrease the cost of transport and allow you to succeed at home.

Do not let anyone let you believe these things were easy to accomplish. It took serious work and focus on what really matters to achieve, but we did this for you.

In the coming days, we ask that you look around at the islands we all call home. Our roads are better, our healthcare system is better, our children's education has improved, and our streets are safer than ever before. Let's be proud of who we are after the many challenges we have faced and continue this movement toward progress for our community.

Vinnie and I cannot do this alone. I ask for your vote of support to allow us to secure even more victories for our Commonwealth and that you allow us to work with our team of hardworking, diverse, and compassionate Republicans in the CNMI House and Senate and in the mayorships of our islands to bring our islands forward.

Please give us the opportunity to build upon our successes and provide you with the resilience and vision we need to transform our islands for the better. Please vote for Ralph DLG. Torres and Vinnie Flores Sablan for governor and lieutenant governor this November, and the entire slate of Republican candidates.

We are proud of what we have done, proud of who we are as a community, and proud for the opportunity to continue to serve you for the next four years.

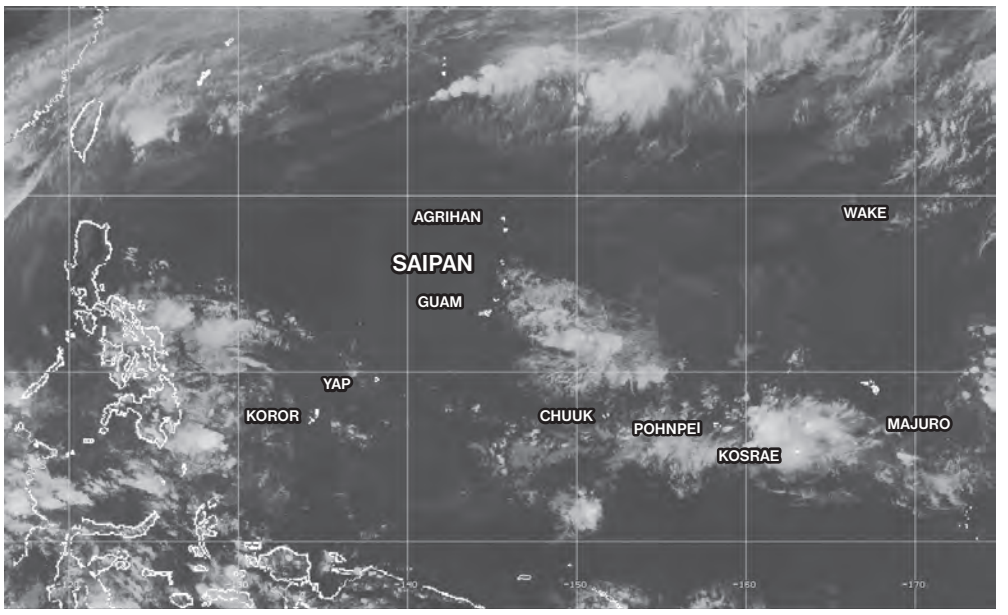
Thank you, *si yu'us ma'ase, ghilisou.*

# The Weather

## 5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

| TODAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY | MONDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Scattered showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny | Partly sunny | Mostly sunny | Mostly sunny | Mostly sunny |
| 87° 78° | 88° 79° | 88° 79° | 88° 79° | 88° 79° |

## YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE




**PICTURE TIME: 11:47 AM, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2022**

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Light winds and the lack of cloud cover this morning has lead to island convection to develop over portions of Guam, especially the southern portion of Guam, with satellite showing some clouds developing off the western coasts of Rota, Tinian and Saipan as well. Updated the forecast to mention scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. Best chance of showers and thunderstorms will be the southwest portions of the islands and into the western coastal waters.

*Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/*

| MICRONESIA | ▲ ▼ °F | |
|---|---|---|
| Guam and Rota | Thunderstorms | 85° / 78° |
| Palau | Partly Cloudy | 84° / 76° |
| Yap | Partly Cloudy | 85° / 79° |
| Chuuk | Isolated Thunderstorms | 87° / 80° |
| Pohnpei | Thunderstorms | 86° / 76° |
| Kosrae | Mostly Cloudy | 86° / 79° |
| Majuro | Thunderstorms | 84° / 79° |

| DAY | SUNRISE | SUNSET |
|---|---|---|
| Today | 6:13 AM | 5:47 PM |
| Friday | 6:13 AM | 5:46 PM |
| Saturday | 6:14 AM | 5:46 PM |
| Sunday | 6:14 AM | 5:46 PM |
| Monday | 6:15 AM | 5:46 PM |

| DAY | MOONRISE | MOONSET | MOONRISE |
|---|---|---|---|
| Today | - | 1:17 AM | 2:20 PM |
| Friday | - | 2:14 AM | 3:01 PM |
| Saturday | - | 3:09 AM | 3:40 PM |
| Sunday | - | 4:01 AM | 4:18 PM |
| Monday | - | 4:53 AM | 4:56 PM |

| AROUND THE GLOBE | ▲ ▼ °F | |
|---|---|---|
| Auckland | Showers | 69° / 58° |
| Beijing | Partly Cloudy | 54° / 31° |
| Hong Kong | Rain | 75° / 72° |
| Honolulu | Partly Cloudy | 84° / 74° |
| London | Rain | 54° / 43° |
| Los Angeles | Cloudy | 70° / 56° |
| Manila | Thunderstorms | 90° / 75° |
| Melbourne | Cloudy | 59° / 47° |
| Miami | Partly Cloudy | 85° / 79° |
| New York | Sunny | 70° / 49° |
| Osaka | Partly Cloudy | 72° / 58° |
| Paris | Rain | 60° / 48° |
| Busan | Partly Cloudy | 71° / 47° |
| Rome | Partly Cloudy | 73° / 63° |
| Salem | Partly Cloudy | 76° / 52° |
| San Francisco | Showers | 57° / 45° |
| Seoul | Cloudy | 57° / 31° |
| Tokyo | Mostly Sunny | 74° / 57° |
| Washington, DC | Mostly Cloudy | 71° / 50° |

| TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY | | FEET |
|---|---|---|
| 1:59 AM | High Tide | 1.41 |
| 9:18 AM | Low Tide | -0.03 |
| 4:38 PM | High Tide | 1.83 |
| 10:50 PM | Low Tide | 0.84 |

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# FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 1, 2022

## DEPARTURES

### SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA117 | 9:50AM | 10:35AM | Daily |

### SAIPAN- NARITA (NRT)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA824 | 7:05AM | 9:45AM | 1, 3, 5 |

### GUAM-MANILA (MNL)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| PR 111 | 6:00AM | 7:45AM | Daily |
| UA193 | 7:55PM | 11:50PM | 2, 5 via Palau |
| UA183 | 8:00PM | 9:50PM | Daily |

### SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA117/183 | 9:50AM | 9:50PM | Daily via Guam |
| UA117/193 | 9:50AM | 11:50PM | 2, 5 via Guam, Palau |
| OZ624/701 | 3:40PM | 10:35AM+1 | 3,6 via Incheon |

### SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ624 | 3:40PM | 7:40PM | 3, 6 |
| TW308 | 4:30PM | 8:20PM | 3, 4, 6, 7 |
| 7C3405 | 4:35PM | 8:25PM | Daily |

### SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| BX621 | 3:10PM | 6:30PM | 3, 7 |

## ARRIVALS

### GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA174 | 8:00AM | 8:46AM | Daily |

### NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA825 | 9:25PM | 2:00AM+1 | 2, 4, 7 |

### MANILA (MNL)-GUAM

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| PR110 | 10:05PM | 3:55AM+1 | Daily |
| UA184 | 10:55PM | 4:45AM+1 | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 |
| UA192 | 10:40PM | 6:30AM+1 | 2, 5 via Palau |
| UA184 | 12:40AM | 6:30AM | 3, 6 |

### MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA189/174 | 12:40AM | 8:46AM+1 | 3, 6 via Guam |
| UA184/174 | 10:55PM | 8:46AM+1 | 1, 3, 4, 6,7 via Guam |
| UA192/174 | 10:40PM | 8:46AM+1 | 2, 5 via Palau, Guam |
| OZ704/623 | 11:50PM | 2:40PM+1 | 2, 5 via Incheon |

### INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ623 | 9:00AM | 2:40PM | 3, 6 |
| TW307 | 10:00AM | 3:30PM | 3, 4, 6, 7 |
| 7C3406 | 10:10AM | 3:30PM | Daily |

### BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| BX622 | 8:00AM | 1:10PM | 3, 7 |

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T'Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

# MARIANAS SOUTHERN AIRWAYS

INITIAL DAILY FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 18, 2022

### SAIPAN TO TINIAN

| DEPARTS | ARRIVES | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|
| 7:00 A.M. | 7:15 A.M. | (Except Sundays) |
| 9:50 A.M. | 10:05 A.M. | |
| 4:00 P.M. | 4:15 P.M. | (Except Saturdays) |

### TINIAN TO SAIPAN

| DEPARTS | ARRIVES | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|
| 7:35 A.M. | 7:50 A.M. | (Except Sundays) |
| 10:25 A.M. | 10:40 A.M. | |
| 4:35 P.M. | 4:50 P.M. | (Except Saturdays) |

### SAIPAN TO ROTA

| DEPARTS | ARRIVES | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|
| 8:10 A.M. | 8:40 A.M. | |
| 1:45 P.M. | 2:15 P.M. | |

### ROTA TO SAIPAN

| DEPARTS | ARRIVES | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|
| 9:00 A.M. | 9:30 A.M. | |
| 2:35 P.M. | 3:05 P.M. | |

### SAIPAN TO GUAM

| DEPARTS | ARRIVES | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|
| 11:10 A.M. | 12:00 P.M. | |
| 5:15 P.M. | 6:05 P.M. | |

### GUAM TO SAIPAN

| DEPARTS | ARRIVES | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|
| 12:30 P.M. | 1:20 P.M. | |
| 6:40 P.M. | 7:30 P.M. | |

# STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 1, 2022

### SAIPAN TO ROTA

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTS | ARRIVES | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1301 | 8:30 | 9:00 | Daily |
| 1302 | 11:00 | 11:30 | Mon/Wed/Fri |
| 1302 | 12:00 | 12:30 | Tues/Thurs/ Sat/Sun |
| 1303 | 15:30 | 16:00 | Daily |

### ROTA TO SAIPAN

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTS | ARRIVES | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3101 | 9:30 | 10:00 | Daily |
| 3102 | 13:00 | 13:30 | Tues/Thurs/ Sat/Sun |
| 3102 | 14:00 | 14:30 | Mon/Wed/Fri |
| 3103 | 16:30 | 17:00 | Daily |

### ROTA TO GUAM

| LIGHT # | DEPARTS | ARRIVES | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3401 | 12:00 | 12:30 | Mon/Wed/Fri |

### GUAM TO ROTA

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTS | ARRIVES | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 4301 | 13:00 | 13:30 | Mon/Wed/Fri |

### SAIPAN TO TINIAN

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTS | ARRIVES | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1202 | 8:00 | 8:15 | Daily |
| 1203 | 9:00 | 9:15 | Daily |
| 1204 | 10:00 | 10:15 | Daily |
| 1208 | 14:00 | 14:15 | Daily |
| 1209 | 15:00 | 15:15 | Daily |
| 1210 | 16:00 | 16:15 | Daily |
| 1211 | 17:00 | 17:15 | Daily |

### TINIAN TO SAIPAN

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTS | ARRIVES | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2102 | 8:30 | 8:45 | Daily |
| 2103 | 9:30 | 9:45 | Daily |
| 2104 | 10:30 | 10:45 | Daily |
| 2108 | 14:30 | 14:45 | Daily |
| 2109 | 15:30 | 15:45 | Daily |
| 2110 | 16:30 | 16:45 | Daily |
| 2111 | 17:30 | 17:45 | Daily |

COVID-19 CRIPPLED A LOT OF DREAMS AND BUSINESSES.

A local staple in the CNMI, Terry's Snack Bar in Chalan Kanoa, was awarded their BOOST Grant check on November 1st. Governor Ralph DLG Torres visits Theresita Pertudo to present the award.

BOOST Program gives **new hope** and **inspires people** across Northern Marianas to get back on their feet.

DEADLINE EXTENDED TO NOVEMBER 18

**BOOST Program** is the acronym for - **B**uilding **O**ptimism, **O**pportunities and **S**tability **T**ogether. It is a financial assistance in the form of Grants – initiated by the Office of the Governor, Department of Commerce, and Department of Finance – provided to local businesses and non-profits, as well as coaching and training programs to support their viability and help create employment opportunities. The program also supports the Commonwealth government's goal of diversifying the economy and increasing tax revenues.

**Apply for it now. While funds last.**
For inquiries simply logon to www.boostcnmi.com

# GETTING HEALTHY TOGETHER AS A FAMILY

## Start Preparing Meal Plans Together

Sit down with your family and start creating the meal plan for the following week. Including your children in the process will make them happy – they will be extremely satisfied that they have contributed to the family's wellness plan!

## Add Some Color

It is essential to add whole foods filled with nutrients, and add a little bit of every possible color you can find! For example, pick two colors that should be included in almost all meals during the week – green and orange, and then add plenty of leafy greens and carrots to your plates.

## Have ONLY Healthy Snacks Around

Instead of filling your kitchen cabinets with unhealthy snacks filled with sugar and salt, focus on healthy snacks. The point of staying healthy and focusing on wellness is choosing nutritious snack options when grocery shopping. Going for snacks with less sugar which are less processed is the best option!

## Mindful Eating

Next time you sit down with your children, try to explain that to them. Mindful eating means listening to your body – knowing when to stop when you have had enough. Part of family fitness is teaching your children to know when to stop eating.

Even though this may seem like one of the biggest challenges you will ever face, it is not impossible to achieve. All you need to do is include all your family members, and the process of getting healthy will become much easier!

If you are looking for more topics like this one, then follow **Fit to Lead** on social media or just visit

**fittoleadmarianas.com.**

**Before starting any diet or fitness journey, please consult with your doctor or a health professional.**

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

FIT TO LEAD

# UOG president Thomas Krise to retire in August 2023

Thomas W. Krise, the 11th president of the University of Guam, conveyed to the UOG Board of Regents and the university community last Tuesday that he will retire when his five-year term ends in August 2023.

"There's never a perfect time for a transition in jobs like this, but I think given the great momentum in the university, coupled with superb leadership at all levels of the institution, the current academic year is a propitious one to search for the 12th president of UOG," Krise announced to the UOG community.

In the meantime, Krise said, UOG will continue reaching its Para Hulo' goals of enriching the student experience and seeking to be a model for operations and resource management, "including our unprecedented set of capital building projects."

"I am so proud of our students, alumni, faculty, staff, and administrators for all they've accomplished over our whole 70 years of history and especially over this last half-decade," he wrote.

Krise

"With your hard work and dedication, we achieved full Sea Grant status, $18 million per year in research grants, awards and national rankings for excellence and for promoting social mobility, and more than 100 partnership agreements with universities and colleges across the region and around the world," according to Krise.

During this half-decade, Krise said, UOG survived the tough challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, recession, inflation, cuts in funding, and the loss of some of UOG's cherished colleagues and friends.

"But, through highs and lows, UOG has been a beacon and an example for our community. I've so enjoyed getting to know this island and our region and to work closely with other leaders and team members to transform lives and advance our communities. I've learned so much from my experience as a Triton, and I'm deeply grateful for the opportunity to serve with you," Krise added.

During his tenure, Krise and his wife Patricia Krise, made a personal investment into helping UOG students pursue and complete their degrees. In 2020, the couple donated $85,000 through the UOG Endowment Foundation.

The scholarship offers three categories: first-generation college students; students who have demonstrated the need to complete their degree programs; and students who will be participating in unpaid internships with nonprofit organizations. The scholarship fund will produce $1,000 scholarships for three students each year in perpetuity.

UOG Board of Regents chair Liza J. Provido said, "We value President Krise's leadership as he guided UOG through the pandemic while elevating the university's reputation throughout Asia Pacific and its standing among other public U.S. colleges and universities as a growing research institution and as an institution that focuses on the success of its students."

A search for his successor will soon be underway.

"The board is committed to staying the course with our goals, and a search will soon be launched to ensure a smooth and timely transition," Provido said. ***(UOG)***

NMC

**LOCAL AUTHOR**

Northern Marianas College students and employees had a chance to speak with Julian Aguon, a Guam-based lawyer, activist, and author. His book, The Properties of Perpetual Light, is currently being used as a textbook in the college's Current Issues capstone course (SO297). Aguon and members of the University of Guam Press also facilitated a training session for NMC instructors who teach the SO297 class. For more information on Aguon's book, visit www.uogpress.com.

# Women's Affairs Office thanks sponsors, partners for successful community event

The Women's Affairs Office thanks all the donors, sponsors, and partners who helped in the successful staging of the "Empowering Women for Success" at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center last Oct. 14, 2022.

The event consisted of mini-workshops, resources from agencies, activities, and even a space where participants could obtain free business outfits and fashion accessories. The event was intended to empower women in the CNMI and provide them with information and resources in preparation for joining the workforce.

The event's sponsors included Dial Rent-to-Own, Northern Marianas Technical Institute, Island Training Solutions, Jim Arenovski, and the Marianas Visitors Authority.

The event's partners were the CNMI Office of the Governor, Lady Diann Torres Foundation, CNMI Youth Affairs, CNMI Homeland Security & Emergency Management, Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence, Northern Marianas Technical Institute, CNMI Department of Labor, CNMI Scholarship Office, Micronesian Legal Services Corp., CNMI Child Care Licensing Program, Soroptimist International of the NMI, Marianas Alliance of Non-Governmental Organizations, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.'s Community Guidance Center, CHCC Non-Communicable Disease Bureau, Northern Marianas College, Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, Saipan Maga'Haga Lady Eagles Club, Miss Northern Marianas Earth 2022 Katherine Johnson, and Saipan Fit-Beat Fitness. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### 4.5-magnitude quake near Dededo

At 10:42am on Nov. 2, 2022, a report of a 4.5-magnitude earthquake occurred at 13.916°N 144.660°E 48 kilometers north-northwest of Dededo Village, Guam. Currently, there are no tsunami warnings or advisories that were issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. For more information, contact the CNMI EOC State Warning Point at (670) 237-8000. ***(PR)***

### Power service interruption on Nov. 9

There will be a scheduled power service interruption on Nov. 9, 2022, as the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. continues its ongoing system maintenance.

- Time: 9am to 1pm
- Area(s) affected: Puerto Rico (Manilao Drive).
- Purpose: To install a three-phase mid-span power pole along Manilao Drive to elevate sagging secondary line.
- Water wells) affected: None
- Wastewater facility affected: None

CUC continues to work diligently to minimize any inconvenience to its customers. For more information, contact the CUC Customer Hotline (236-4333) or monitor our Facebook page for the latest updates. ***(PR)***


THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
BAR ASSOCIATION

**Employment Opportunity**

**Executive Director**

The CNMI Bar Association is a non-profit organization dedicated to ensuring the highest standards for the legal profession in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The candidate for the position of Executive Director must be a self-starter who independently meets the daily goals and objectives of the Bar. The candidate must be very detail oriented, trustworthy, reliable, and must have excellent customer-service skills. The ideal candidate must have at least five (5) years of administrative experience; an associate's degree or a business college certificate of proficiency; and proficient computer (MS Office, MS Excel, and Adobe Acrobat), accounting, bookkeeping, and English-language skills.

Duties include overall office operations, such as maintaining financial accounts; dues collection; expense payments; coordination of meetings, programs, and projects; representation of the Bar at functions; and any other duties and responsibilities as assigned by the Bar President.

**Salary:** $17,680.00 (part-time for one year).
**Application Procedure:** Send resume, cover letter, and three references via email to cnmibar@gmail.com.
**Application Deadline:** Monday, November 21, 2022

NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE
Procurement & Property Management Office
P.O. Box 501250 • Saipan, MP 96950 U.S.A.
Phone: (670) 234-5498 Ext. 6824 | www.marianas.edu

**AGROFORESTRY CONSULTANT SERVICES FOR NMC-CREES**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**
**NMC RFP 23-001**

Northern Marianas College, Cooperative Research, Extension, and Education Services (CREES) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals for Agroforestry Consultant Services. The specifications and Scope of Work package may be picked up at the NMC Procurement Office, Bldg. P, commencing Friday, October 21, 2022 between the hours of 9:00-11:00 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m.

**Preproposal meeting:** 09:00am – 10:00am, November 7, 2022 CNMI via Zoom meeting room. Attendance is strongly recommended.

**Proposal Packages:** Due no later than 10:00 a.m., Monday, November 21, 2022, Saipan time at the Northern Marianas College, As Terlaje Campus, Procurement Office, Bldg. P, Saipan, MP 96950. Article 7, **"Local Business Preference"**, as amended by Public Laws 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, is not available to local vendors in this procurement.

**Proposers located outside of the CNMI:** You may request a copy of the RFP via email to Christina Cruz (christina.cruz@marianas.edu).

Paid for by 100% Federal Funds through the USDA-NIFA authorized under the Smith Lever Act, Section 3b & 3c, Award NO. NI19SLBCXXXXG055.

This solicitation does not constitute an offer and does not obligate the College in any way. The NMC reserves the right to reject any and/or all proposals for any reason and waive any defect in said proposals, or cancel in part or its entirety this RFP, if it deems, in its sole discretion, it is in the best interest of the College. All costs incurred by the proposer to prepare a response to this solicitation and subsequent inquiries shall be borne by the proposer. All submittals shall become the property of NMC and will not be returned.

/s/ Christina Cruz
NMC Procurement & Property Management Office

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
MAIN OFFICE: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, 2ND FLOOR ARRIVAL BLDG.
PO BOX 501055, SAIPAN, MP 96950
PHONE: (1-670) 237-6500/1 | FAX: (1-670) 234-5962
EMAIL: CPA.ADMIN@PTICOM.COM | WEBSITE: WWW.CNMIPORTS.COM

**Request for Proposals for: CPA Concession No. CRS-2022-01**

**Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport**
**"Car Rental Concession"**
**CPA-RFP-011-22**

The Commonwealth Ports Authority ("CPA" or "Authority") is soliciting proposals for the award of one (1) concession granting the privilege to provide motor vehicle rental services to the traveling public (including the provision of insurance related to motor vehicles rented in the operation of such motor vehicle rental services) at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport ("Car Rental Concession"). The successful proposer will be expected to provide motor vehicle rental services in accordance with its concession and concession agreement at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport for a period of eighteen (18) months (contract to end on 05/31/2024) upon entering into a concession agreement with the Authority.

The date of issuance of CPA-RFP-011-22 is **October 12, 2022**, and it can be obtained at the issuing office: CPA Administration Office, Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, Second floor of Arrival terminal at the Saipan International Airport.

Proposals must be addressed to Commonwealth Ports Authority, Attn: Car Rental Concessions Evaluation Committee, CPA Administration Office, Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950; and submitted to and received by the CPA Administration Office (second floor of arrival terminal at the Saipan International Airport) **by or before 4:00 p.m. on November 22, 2022**, at which time the proposal period shall expire. Proposals must be accompanied with a non-refundable administrative fee of $100.00. Payment shall be made in cash, credit card, or cashier's check payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority to defray the costs associated with handling and considering the proposal. Proposals are not required to include a prepaid minimum concession fee.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to cancel this RFP and to reject any and all proposals in accordance with its Concession Regulations (NMIAC Chapter 40-70).

**/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO**
Executive Director

# Bourbon Street Bar and Cafe opens in Garapan

By LEIGH GASES
leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
CORRESPONDENT

Bourbon Street in New Orleans, Louisiana, which is known for its colorful lights, music, entertainment, alcohol, and huge crowds, is famous as a party place.

The newly opened Bourbon Street Bar and Cafe wants to embody this vibe and bring the party life to Saipan.

LEIGH GASES

Bourbon Street Bar and Cafe president and co-owner Eden Ordas, middle, and Butch Ordas and family, next to her, cut the ribbon during their grand opening last Friday.

Opening last Friday with a grand shindig, Bourbon Street Bar and Cafe caters to locals and tourists alike—they not only offer alcohol, coffee, delicious food ranging from pastas, pizzas, steaks, burgers, local favorites, and appetizers and chasers, but will bring different live entertainment during the weekend and different themed-nights during the weeknights as well.

On weeknights, they're planning on having an open-mic night, stand-up comedy night, acoustic night, local band night, and many more themed nights to come. Along with that, darts will be available soon.

From Thursday to Sunday nights, live band entertainment will run from 7:30pm or 8pm until either 10pm to 11pm.

Along with the main seating inside, which features a bar and the stage, Bourbon Street also features outdoor seating and caters to parties and reservations are recommended. The bar can sit up to 95 patrons.

With a long operating time, people of all ages are welcome and may be catered to as the bar is open from 11am to 4am from Friday to Sunday; and on weeknights, from Monday to Thursday, 11am-2am.

Bar co-owner Eden Ordas' words live up to the bar and restaurant's party theme, saying that the inspiration behind their business is because "life is too short. Whatever treasure we have—we know we work hard, so let's have fun while [we] still have time."

At their grand opening night, Hapi Gabriel, a local comedian who will be performing at the bar, served as emcee; entertainer Shine Vizcara took to the stage and lip-synched for the entertainment of those in attendance, which included family members, friends, and supporters of the owners, Eden and Noel Ordas and Butch and Ailene Ordas.

For Halloween night, the bar held its first ever "Battle of Impersonators," which is just a prelude to the many themed nights to come.

LEIGH GASES

Owner Eden Ordas, second right, is joined by co-owner Butch Ordas, third left, and family, friends, and supporters during Bourbon Bar and Cafe's grand opening last Friday in Garapan.

LEIGH GASES

Owners Eden Ordas, Butch and Aileen Ordas, and host Hapi Gabriel lead everyone in a toast inside their newly opened Bourbon Street Bar and Cafe last Friday in Garapan.

NHORLEEN LILLES

**'TRICK-OR-TREATS!'**
Children in their colorful Halloween costumes pose for a picture with Hapi the Clown as they enjoy a night of games and prizes at Summer Snow indoor playground last Saturday, Oct. 29, 2022.

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**
**CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID**
**ITB NO.: DPW23-ITB NO. 42300003**

**SUBMISSION DATE: November 21, 2022 TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

**"Proposed FinaSisu Lane Road & Drainage Improvement"**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, LOCATED ON SECOND FLOOR, OLEAI JOETEN COMMERCIAL CENTER, SAN JOSE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

**THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.**

The project package will be available on or after **October 20, 2022** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan.

A non-refundable payment of **One Hundred Dollars ($100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at DPW Technical Services Division required for each set.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **November 07, 2022**, 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All question regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **November 16, 2022** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

**/S/ JAMES A. ADA**
**SECRETARY, DPW**

**/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON**
**ACTING DIRECTOR,**
**DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES**

**NMPASI**
**NORTHERN MARIANAS PROTECTION & ADVOCACY SYSTEMS, INC.**

## Request for Proposal

The Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems, Inc. (NMPASI) is soliciting proposals for Audit of financial and compliance audit for fiscal year ending **September 30, 2022.** NMPASI is designated, federally funded protection and advocacy system for persons with disabilities in the CNMI. NMPASI uses a variety of individual and systems advocacy approaches to protect people's rights, including legal and administrative remedies, legislative, policy change and trainings. Proposals for the financial and compliance audit shall be submitted to NMPASI, P.O. Box 503529, Saipan, MP 96950 no later than **December 16, 2022.** The audit shall be performed in compliance with the following guidelines:

1. Generally Accepted Auditing Standards;
2. OMB Circular A-133; and
3. Compliance with the general Requirements Applicable to Federal Financial Assistance Program.

Award will be based on specific factor such as prior experience, technical competence, ability to meet the deadline and price in this order. The contract for this audit will be awarded no later than **December 30, 2022**, and a final audit report shall be completed by **March 17, 2023**. A list of specific audit requirements and Agency's profile are available at NMPASI office, Gualo Rai. Any questions regarding this matter can be addressed to Mr. Gregory Borja, Executive Director at (670) 235-7273/4 (voice) or email at gborja@nmpasi.org.

# Life & Style

## Houston police seek witnesses to rapper Takeoff's killing

**HOUSTON** (AP)—Police said they have few leads in the fatal shooting of rapper Takeoff outside a private party at a downtown Houston bowling alley.

Takeoff, whose off-stage name was Kirsnick Khari Ball, formed one-third of the Grammy Award-nominated trio Migos with uncle Quavo and cousin Offset from suburban Atlanta. The 28-year-old rapper was killed early Friday when gunfire erupted and also wounded another man and a woman, according to police Chief Troy Finner.

Takeoff

Most of the 40 people who attended the party at 810 Billiards & Bowling fled when the gunshots rang out, Finner said. That left police asking people to come forward and give statements and videos to investigators on what they saw and heard, even if anonymously, Mayor Sylvester Turner said.

At least two people discharged firearms, according to Finner. The two others who were struck by gunfire had non-life-threatening wounds and went to hospitals in private vehicles, he said.

"Let me just ask ... that anyone who has information on the shooter or shooters to provide that information to HPD and let us solve this situation," Turner said at a news conference Tuesday. "Let us bring justice to this family."

Finner said Takeoff was "well respected," and there was "no reason to believe he was involved in anything criminal at the time."

Migos' record label, Quality Control, mourned Takeoff's death in a statement posted on Instragram.

## Theft charges dismissed for ex-manager of Marvel's Stan Lee

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—A Los Angeles judge declared a mistrial and dismissed grand theft charges Tuesday against a former business manager of Marvel Comics mastermind Stan Lee.

Superior Court Judge George Lomeli dismissed the charges against Keya Morgan, who was accused of stealing from Lee, when a jury was deadlocked 11-1 in favor of acquittal after two days of deliberations and a 2 1/2-week trial.

Lomeli said he was stepping in to clear Morgan of three felony counts of grand theft from an elder "in the interests of justice," according to Variety.

"My client and I have spent four years proving his innocence and today we prevailed," Morgan's attorney Alex Kessel said in an email to The Associated Press.

Prosecutors had alleged that Morgan, 41, stole more than $220,000 in proceeds from three memorabilia signings from Lee about six months before Lee died in 2018. Morgan was arrested the following year. Initial charges of elder abuse and false imprisonment against Morgan were dropped long before the trial.

The prosecution argued during the trial that Morgan had preyed on Lee when Lee was in mental decline in the last months of his life, and acted without authority on his behalf.

Kessel argued that the missing money actually went to Lee's daughter and heir J.C. Lee, who was a witness during the trial.

The proceedings were largely overshadowed by the simultaneous trials of disgraced movie mogul Harvey Weinstein and actor Danny Masterson, which were going on simultaneously with Morgan's on the same hallway of a downtown LA courthouse.

## Fresh off Twitter acquisition, Musk suits up for Halloween

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Elon Musk didn't let the responsibilities of becoming CEO at a third major company curb his Halloween spirit this year.

Fresh off of a $44 billion deal to buy Twitter, Musk showed up on a red carpet in New York City in what appeared to be a "Devil's Champion" costume alongside his mother, Maye Musk.

Musk on Monday evening attended model Heidi Klum's Halloween bash on Manhattan's Lower East Side.

AbracadabraNYC, a New York store that features the costume online, shows a list price of $7,500 for the "armored" red and black outfit.

AP

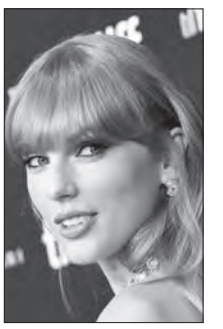
Elon Musk attends Heidi Klum's 21st annual Halloween party at Sake No Hana at Moxy Lower East Side on Monday, Oct. 31, 2022, in New York.

The world's richest man and CEO of Tesla, SpaceX and now Twitter, has been tied up in an acrimonious legal fight after attempting to back out of an agreement to acquire the social media platform.

Musk has promised big changes at the social media company, including the possibility of charging verified Twitter users a monthly fee. That idea was met with disdain this week from some prolific tweeters, including horror author Stephen King.

## Taylor Swift announces 27-date US stadium tour in 2023

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Fresh off one of her biggest album launches of her career, Taylor Swift announced a new U.S. stadium tour starting in 2023, with international dates to follow.


Swift

The 27-date Eras Tour will kick off on March 18 in Glendale, Arizona, and wrap up with two nights in Los Angeles on Aug. 4-5 at SoFi Stadium. Tour openers will include Paramore, beabadoobee, Phoebe Bridgers, girl in red, MUNA, HAIM, Gayle, Gracie Abrams and OWENN.

"I can't WAIT to see your gorgeous faces out there. It's been a long time coming," Swift said on Instagram, describing the tour as "a journey through the musical eras of my career (past and present!)."

Fans who receive a special code after registering will have exclusive access to buy tickets on Nov. 15. The rest of the public can get tickets starting Nov. 18.

The tour will hit AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas; Mercedes-Benz Stadium in Atlanta; Lincoln Financial Field in Philadelphia; Soldier Field in Chicago; Gillette Stadium in Foxborough, Massachusetts; and MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, New Jersey, among others.

## Amazon Music expands catalog to 100M songs for members

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Amazon Music is gearing up for a massive content expansion: The streaming giant will offer a full catalog of music with more than 100 million songs for members.

The streaming service told The Associated Press that members will gain hundreds of millions of songs—a huge increase from 2 million—in shuffle mode without any advertisement at no additional costs. It will also include most top podcasts ad-free including Wondery's catalog of premium shows along with series like "MrBallen Podcast: Strange, Dark & Mysterious Stories" and Keke Palmer's new original podcast "Baby, this is Keke Palmer."

"We can't wait for members to experience not only a massively expanded catalog of songs, but also the largest selection of ad-free top podcasts anywhere, at no additional cost to their membership," said Steve Boom, vice president at Amazon Music.

## Grandma raising boy is eager to live her life

**DEAR ABBY:** I have been raising my daughter's first child. "Joey" is 10, and he has been living with my husband and me full time for four years. I love him very much and enjoy being his "mom," but I'm not good at helping him with homework. My daughter doesn't have time for him. She has two other kids with a different dad. The stepdad has no desire to be a dad to Joey.

I am Joey's everything. My life revolves around him. But, Abby, at 52, I feel I have earned the right to do as I want at this time in my life. I feel I would be punishing Joey if I gave him back to his mom to raise. His biological father is not in his life, although the paternal grandparents are in contact with him. Your thoughts on this situation?

**LIKE A MOM IN SOUTH CAROLINA**

**DEAR LIKE A MOM: Gladly. When Joey is 18, you will be 60. That is not over the hill. Please do not give up on your grandson at this point. As you stated, you are "everything" to him, and in this case, it is literally true. Joey's paternal grandparents did a terrible job raising their irresponsible son. Would you really consider turning Joey over to them to mess up? Stay the course!**

■■■■

**DEAR ABBY:** My husband has cerebral palsy. He can talk, but his speech is slightly slurred. He can walk, but he's unsteady on his feet. We love to go out and have a few drinks, but the issue is that people think he is intoxicated. We have been thrown out of places. We were almost thrown out of a ride-share service until I told the driver he has a disability. We were at a concert going up the steps (I was holding beers), and everyone stared at him thinking he was drunk. Do you have any advice (short of putting up a sign that he is disabled)?

**SOCIAL SPOUSE**

**DEAR SPOUSE: Your husband should not have to display a sign. When you go to a bar or a restaurant, inform the manager or the bartender as soon as you enter that your husband has a disability that affects his balance. While it won't work in large crowds such as at a concert, it should save you and your husband from any misunderstandings in smaller venues.**

■■■■

**DEAR ABBY:** One of the last times we hung out, a friend made a comment about my size. She said, "I shouldn't complain about my weight gain. I'm smaller than YOU." It was really rude. I thought about that comment and how to approach it for a week, and when I saw her next, I asked her to not bring up my size when she complains about hers.

Instead of apologizing, she spent 15 minutes justifying what she said. But there was no real justification. Since then, I have avoided her. She keeps reaching out and asking to spend time with me, but at this point, I don't feel I should. What would you do?

**OFFENDED IN HAWAII**

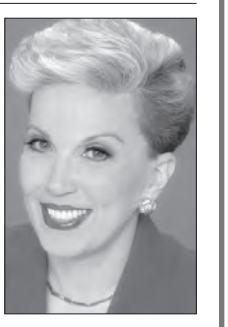
**DEAR OFFENDED: I would tell her no, and I would tell her in no uncertain terms exactly why.**

■■■■

*Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)*

### DEAR ABBY

**By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
*UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE*



*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

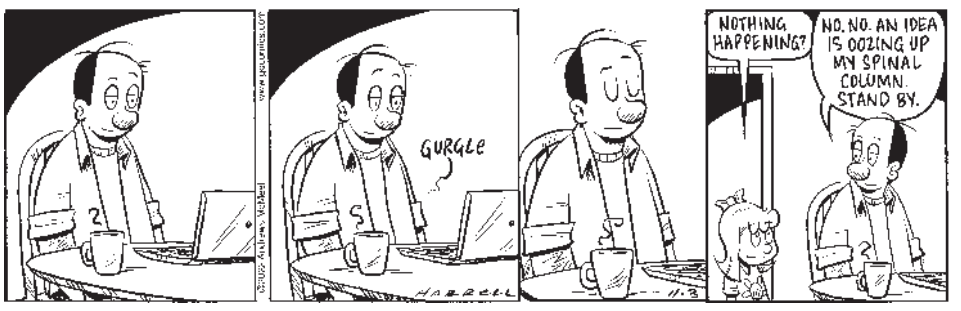
CAN YOU BELIEVE THIS?? A SKULL FOR A RETURN ADDRESS, UNTRACEABLE CUT-OUT LETTERS, AND A CODE KEY FOR A FUTURE MESSAGE!
THIS IS REAL SECRET AGENT STUFF! WHOEVER SENT THIS IS TAKING NO CHANCES ON THE MESSAGE BEING TRACED OR INTERCEPTED!
GOSH, THE MESSAGE MUST BE SUPER TOP SECRET AND IMPORTANT! I WONDER WHAT IT COULD BE! I WONDER WHEN I'LL FIND OUT!
IT'S A GOOD THING YOU'RE THE PATIENT TYPE.
THIS IS SO COOL I HAVE TO GO TO THE BATHROOM!

## Garfield®

By Jim Davis

## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset




## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

YOU KNOW WHAT THE MOST ANNOYING THING ABOUT BEING A TEACHER IS?
YEAH. HAVING TO REPEAT EVERYTHING.
IT'S HAVING TO REPEAT EVERYTHING!
I KNOW. YOU'VE TOLD ME.
ALL DAY LONG! REPEAT, REPEAT, REPEAT, REPEAT...

## CROSSWORD

*By Eugene Sheffer*

**ACROSS**

1 Cupid's specialty
5 Science room
8 Italian wine region
12 Justice Soto-mayor's garb
13 Exploit
14 Halt
15 Hip
16 Actor Kilmer
17 Cherry centers
18 Firm
20 Bleak
22 Cookie at a social
26 Wise ones
29 Snitch
30 Baton Rouge sch.
31 Goad
32 Heavy weight
33 Fourth-down play
34 Id counterpart
35 Bit of wit
36 Bridge seats
37 Bake sale treat
40 Pesters
41 Arctic homes
45 Cartoonist Addams, familiarly
47 Lemon
49 Cupid's realm
50 Buddies
51 Consumed
52 In — (miffed)
53 Friend
54 "Certainly!"
55 Ukr. and Lith., once

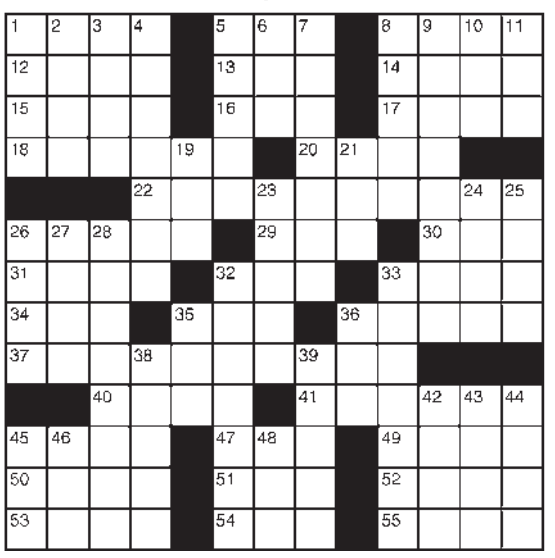
**DOWN**

1 Curved lines
2 Academic
3 Slender woodwind
4 Akin
5 Candy heart message
6 Simile center
7 Brussels native
8 Jellied entree
9 Incentive
10 Nanny's charge
11 URL addresses
19 — Moines
21 Letters after Q
23 Bucking horse
24 "Money — everything!"
25 Mild rebukes
26 Detail, briefly
27 Jason's ship
28 Knucklehead
32 Mardi Gras, e.g.
33 Spanish rice dishes
35 Cello tuner
36 Heart chart (Abbr.)
38 Persnickety
39 Staffers
42 "Clumsy me!"
43 Done with
44 Collector's goals
45 Tax pro
46 "2001" computer
48 Salt Lake athlete

Solution time: 24 mins.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | E | B | B | | | D | E | O | | | |
| | T | R | U | E | | P | A | I | R | S | | |
| S | W | E | L | ■ | A | N | G | E | ■ | A | | |
| P | I | C | K | A | N | D | C | H | O | O | S | E |
| A | N | T | ■ | B | E | R | F | T | ■ | P | S | A |
| | | | T | O | R | F | ■ | | D | F | F | R |
| | F | J | O | R | D | ■ | R | I | N | D | S | |
| A | I | U | M | ■ | | | D | A | T | A | | |
| S | O | I | ■ | S | W | A | N | S | ■ | S | A | O |
| P | O | I | N | T | A | N | D | C | L | I | C | K |
| | R | E | C | A | N | T | ■ | O | A | S | I | S |
| | | T | I | ■ | D | E | ■ | L | O | A | D | |
| | | | S | E | A | | | D | S | ■ | | |

Yesterday's answer 11-3



**STUMPED?** For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Elizabeth Smart, 35; Colin Kaepernick, 35; Marjean Holden, 58; Dolph Lundgren, 65.

**Happy Birthday:** Invest time and money in your space. Adding comfort and convenience to your living arrangements will ease stress and give you something to look forward to at the end of each day. Trying something new and exciting will encourage you to do what makes you happy. Map out your course and refuse to let anyone interfere or control your life. Your numbers are 7, 13, 24, 29, 32, 38, 46.

**ARIES** *(March 21-April 19):* Take a back seat and observe. What you discover will be who is on your side and who isn't. Doing something physical will ease stress and encourage you to revisit old ideas better suited to how things are trending in today's market. ✪✪✪

**TAURUS** *(April 20-May 20):* Recognize your capabilities and how to use what you know to get ahead. Choose your course of action based on your needs, not because someone is trying to push you in a direction that offers them more benefits than you. ✪✪✪✪

**GEMINI** *(May 21-June 20):* You can't please everyone, so aim to do what makes you happy. Question what others ask you to do, shared information or an incident that can change how you feel about someone you know. Go directly to the source. ✪✪

**CANCER** *(June 21-July 22):* Your ideas will be spot-on. Speak up and work alongside those who are equally as enthusiastic. Turn whatever you do into something enjoyable for you and everyone who cares to help. Spending time with someone you love will lead to long-term plans. ✪✪✪✪✪

**LEO** *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Do whatever it takes to keep the peace. Be a good listener, offer suggestions and put your energy where it will do the most good. Don't let the decisions others make stress you out. Go about your business and finish what you start. ✪✪✪

**VIRGO** *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Get together with friends, colleagues or relatives and discuss plans and differences you have. You'll come up with a way to please everyone while still handling your prime concerns. Pay attention to the way you look and present yourself. ✪✪✪

**LIBRA** *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Spend more time learning, teaching and working as a team player. Express your feelings, what you are trying to achieve and what you need others to do to help you reach your goal. Give your all, and you'll get high returns. ✪✪✪

**SCORPIO** *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Get involved in something unique. Try applying your skills and experiences to something that makes you feel good about your contribution. Doing your best to make a difference will motivate others to look up to you and pitch in and help. ✪✪✪✪✪

**SAGITTARIUS** *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Take a breather and revisit your options. Choose to listen to an expert, not someone using emotional tactics to take advantage of you. Put your energy into learning, living in the moment, and addressing and getting your emotions under control. ✪✪

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN** *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Take the road less traveled and see where it goes. Those you encounter will enrich your life and outlook. Expand your mind and interests and offer your expertise to a cause you want to conquer. Romance will enhance your personal life. ✪✪✪✪

**AQUARIUS** *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Keep moving forward, regardless of what others do or say. Don't let outside influences interfere with your plans. Pay attention to what's important to you, and you will overcome any obstacle you encounter. ✪✪✪

**PISCES** *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Leave nothing to chance regarding your financial status. Put your papers in order and map out an investment plan to help you lower debt. A promise you make to someone you love will bring you closer together. ✪✪✪

**Birthday Baby:** You are imaginative, empathetic and passionate. You are intuitive and supportive.

*✪: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ✪✪: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ✪✪✪: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ✪✪✪✪: Aim high; start new projects. ✪✪✪✪✪: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.*

## SUDOKU

**Conceptis Sudoku** *By Dave Green*

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 2 | | | | 6 | | |
| | | 1 | 6 | 4 | | 7 | | |
| | 3 | 5 | | | | 8 | 1 | |
| | | | | 5 | | | 9 | |
| | 2 | | | | | | 5 | |
| | 4 | | | 1 | | | | |
| | 1 | 6 | | | | 9 | 7 | |
| | | 4 | | 3 | 7 | 5 | | |
| | | 9 | | | | 3 | | |

Difficulty Level ★★★ 11/03

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

**Last Friday's Answer**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 8 | 4 | 6 | 7 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 9 |
| 1 | 7 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 9 | 4 | 8 | 6 |
| 6 | 9 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 7 |
| 8 | 1 | 5 | 9 | 6 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 3 |
| 2 | 4 | 9 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 6 | 7 | 5 |
| 7 | 3 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 8 | 9 | 1 |
| 9 | 5 | 1 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 8 |
| 4 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 3 | 5 | 9 | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 2 | 8 | 1 | 9 | 6 | 7 | 5 | 4 |

Difficulty Level ★★★

## WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

**LITTLE LEAGUE COACH** Solution: 8 letters

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| P | D | R | O | T | N | E | M | S | P | H | E | L | P | F |
| F | I | E | L | D | F | R | I | A | F | O | S | C | O | R |
| E | E | H | M | A | W | O | R | H | T | M | L | U | D | I |
| V | N | C | S | O | L | E | D | O | M | E | L | O | R | E |
| O | C | T | I | N | N | I | N | G | S | R | I | B | A | N |
| L | O | A | H | T | A | S | S | E | L | U | R | A | Y | D |
| G | U | C | S | E | C | M | T | P | E | N | D | S | R | S |
| N | R | D | M | H | A | A | S | R | L | C | H | E | E | R |
| I | A | A | C | E | S | U | R | T | A | A | E | B | T | E |
| H | G | A | T | M | K | R | A | P | R | T | Y | A | T | T |
| C | E | V | I | F | H | G | I | H | N | O | E | L | A | H |
| T | E | L | D | D | U | H | L | U | U | R | P | L | B | G |
| I | E | R | E | D | A | E | L | T | G | R | A | S | S | U |
| P | L | A | T | E | E | O | H | E | L | M | E | T | S | A |
| S | C | O | R | E | V | I | T | I | S | O | P | A | E | L |

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Baseball, Batter, Catcher, Cheer, Demonstrate, Drills, Encourage, Fair, Field, Foul, Friends, Game, Glove, Grass, Great, Helmets, Help, High-five, Home Run, Huddle, Innings, Laughter, Leader, Leap, Mentor, Parents, Park, Pitching, Plate, Play, Positive, Practice, Role Model, Rules, Safe, Score, Smile, Sportsmanship, Teach, Team, Throw, Volunteer, Yard, Youth

**Yesterday's Answer: Native**

The NEW **Treasury 50** can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480.

# Harper, Phillies tie World Series mark with 5 HR, top Astros

**PHILADELPHIA** (AP)—Bryce Harper bashed a home run on the first World Series pitch he saw in Philadelphia, and then figured out how the Phillies could hit a few more.

The $330 million star offered quiet advice to Alec Bohm — and then it got really loud in Philadelphia.

As for those whispers in May that the Phillies were finished? Forget about 'em. The secret has long been out: these Phillies are for real.

Now, they're two wins away from their first World Series championship since 2008.

Harper hammered his sixth postseason home run, whispered an assist to Bohm before his solo shot and the Phillies tied a World Series record with five homers to rout the Houston Astros 7-0 Tuesday night and take a 2-1 Series lead.

Brandon Marsh also homered, and Kyle Schwarber and Rhys Hoskins hit back-to-back shots in the fifth inning to chase Astros starter Lance McCullers Jr. Philadelphia used the long ball to end the long wait for its first World Series home win since Game 5 of the 2009 World Series.

Those Phillies couldn't finish the job.

Ranger Suárez tossed three-hit ball over five shutout innings and inched this year's team closer to getting it done.

Harper, Bohm, Marsh and the rest of the Phillies on the last team to qualify for the playoffs are two wins away from ending the season as the last team standing. With a sparkling 6-0 record at Citizens Bank Park this postseason, the Phillies just may not return to Texas.

"Just being back home, I think is such a momentum swing for us, just for the pure fact of our fan base," Harper said. "This whole city is so excited to be in this moment, and we're just thrilled to be able to play in front of them and have this opportunity."

Another red, raucous, resolute crowd of 45,712 let the Astros have it from the first pitch with chants of "Cheater! Cheater!" for Jose Altuve and "Check the Bat! Check the Bat!" for Martin Maldonado.

The fans — already amped from the jump after another sliding catch by right fielder Nick Castellanos in the first — didn't wait long to go wild for the home run barrage.

With leadoff hitter Schwarber on first base, Harper repeated his flair for playoff power when he ripped a two-run shot off McCullers into the right field seats for the fast lead. That made Harper 2 for 2 on home run swings in Philly — he sent the Phillies to the World Series with a two-run drive in Game 5 of the NL Championship Series to beat San Diego.

Harper crossed the plate and again exclaimed "This is my house!" before he ripped off his helmet, exposed his Phillie Phanatic headband and was mobbed by teammates in the dugout.

Harper's homers shake the stadium to the point they should be measured on the Richter scale rather than in feet — and they seem as automatic these days as a Phillie Phanatic spin on his ATV. Harper has hit four postseason homers that gave the Phillies the lead and showed that, yes, Bryce Bombs do go off in November, the first time more World Series games will be played in this month than October.

Oh, and Harper might have a second career as a homer whisperer.

Harper beckoned Bohm from the on-deck circle and back to the dugout for a quick word of advice.

Maybe Harper saw McCullers tipping his pitches?

"I think any time you have information, you want to be able to give that to your teammates at any point," Harper said. "Anytime I can help my teammates, throughout the whole season, we've done that."

AP

Philadelphia Phillies' Bryce Harper celebrates his two-run home run during the first inning in Game 3 of baseball's World Series between the Houston Astros and the Philadelphia Phillies on Tuesday, Nov. 1, 2022, in Philadelphia.

Whatever the quiet counseling was, it worked, and Bohm lined his first postseason homer leading off the second inning and the 1,000th in World Series history into the left field seats for 3-0 lead.

So c'mon, Alec, fess up, what did Bryce tell you?

"That's between us," Bohm said with a shrug and a big smile.

Marsh took the baton on the long-ball relay and knocked one into the right field seats that was dropped by a young kid from Delaware. The home run stood after a brief review — as it seems nothing can interfere with Philadelphia's playoff push — and it was 4-0.

With that, McCullers had allowed four homers to his first nine batters. The right-hander who got his left triceps inked with nods to Houston got absolutely tattooed by the Phillies.

"It was kind of mind-boggling because he doesn't give up homers," Astros manager Dusty Baker said. "He usually keeps the ball in the ballpark. He wasn't satisfied with it. We were very surprised by it."

Schwarber, the NL home run champion, again dumped a two-run shot into a thicket of English ivy, Arborvitae and Holly beyond center field, and Hoskins connected on solo shot for a 7-0 lead that ended McCullers' night.

McCullers became the first pitcher to give up five home runs in a World Series game.

"I don't really get hit around like that, so I was a little bit in disbelief," McCullers said.

Suárez, the scheduled Game 4 starter before Game 3 was postponed a day by rain, delivered with the performance of his career and shut down the big bats in the AL champs' lineup.

He needed only two pitches to get the first two outs of the game and struck out Yordan Alvarez to end the first. The few jams he got into, Suárez worked his way out, notably in the second when he whiffed Chas McCormick and left two runners stranded. He retired Altuve to end the fifth on a soft foul pop with two runners on base.

"He's just a guy with no heartbeat," catcher J.T. Realmuto said. "It looks like he's playing a child's game."

Suárez saved the Phillies from having to use ace relievers José Alvarado and Seranthony Domínguez as four relievers each tossed a scoreless inning to finish the five-hitter.

"It's a really good Houston team over there," Harper said. "They have been here, they have been in all situations before and to be able to come in here and win the first game here was huge for us."

Philly sports champions Mike Schmidt, Julius Erving, Brandon Graham and Bernie Parent threw first pitches to 2008 World Series champions Ryan Howard, Cole Hamels, Jayson Werth and Shane Victorino. Country music star Tim McGraw, son of the late Phillies reliever Tug McGraw, received a huge ovation and wore his dad's No. 45 McGraw jersey. McGraw closed the 1980 World Series with a strikeout.

# Astros' Peña, Tucker, Phillies' Realmuto win Gold Gloves

**PHILADELPHIA** (AP)—Astros rookie shortstop and AL Championship Series MVP Jeremy Peña won his first Gold Glove Award and Houston right fielder Kyle Tucker joined his teammate on the list announced Tuesday before Game 3 of the World Series.

The NL champion Philadelphia Phillies were represented on the list with catcher J.T. Realmuto. Realmuto also won the award in 2019 in his first season with the Phillies.

Peña is the first rookie shortstop to win a Gold Glove, according to the Elias Sports Bureau.

"I heard that today and I was in shock because I didn't know that was a thing," he said. "But it's pretty cool."

St. Louis Cardinals third baseman Nolan Arenado won his 10th straight Gold Glove and Los Angeles Dodgers right fielder Mookie Betts won his sixth.

AP

Philadelphia Phillies relief pitcher David Robertson and catcher J.T. Realmuto celebrate after their win against the Houston Astros in Game 1 of baseball's World Series between the Houston Astros and the Philadelphia Phillies on Friday, Oct. 28, 2022, in Houston.

The Cleveland Guardians had four players win Gold Gloves, awarded each season to the best individual fielding performances at each position. Pitcher Shane Bieber, second baseman Andrés Giménez, left fielder Steven Kwan and center fielder Myles Straw all won their first Gold Gloves.

They were joined on the AL side by New York Yankees catcher Jose Trevino, Toronto Blue Jays first baseman Vladimir Guerrero Jr., Baltimore Orioles third baseman Ramón Urías and utility player DJ LeMahieu. LeMahieu also won Gold Gloves in 2014, 2017 and 2018.

This year marked the first time utility players have been included in the list of Gold Glove winners.

The Braves and Cardinals each had two players make the NL list. Atlanta pitcher Max Fried won his fourth straight award and shortstop Dansby Swanson won his first. Brendan Donovan joined Arenado on the Cardinals' list by winning the utility award.

Arizona first baseman Christian Walker, Colorado second baseman Brendan Rodgers and Chicago left fielder Ian Happ all won their first Gold Gloves. San Diego center fielder Trent Grisham won his second.

# Butler takes over late, Heat rally past Warriors, 116-109

**MIAMI** (AP)— Upon review, Miami coach Erik Spoelstra had a good birthday. Jimmy Butler made sure of that.

Butler scored five straight points late to give Miami the lead, Max Strus led everyone with 24 and the Heat overcame a triple-double from Stephen Curry to beat the Golden State Warriors 116-109 on Tuesday night.

"Huge for our confidence," Strus said.

Butler scored 23 points, including a go-ahead three-point play with 1:48 left. Bam Adebayo scored 19, Duncan Robinson had 17 and Kyle Lowry 13 for Miami, which won on Spoelstra's 52nd birthday.

Curry had 23 points, 13 rebounds and 13 assists for the Warriors (3-5), who dropped their third straight and are 0-4 on the road. Andrew Wiggins added 21 points and Klay Thompson scored 19.

"I thought our energy was better at times," Golden State's Draymond Green said. "But we've still got to put it together and win games."

Curry had his 10th regular season triple-double. But a call that went Miami's way denied him a chance to tie the game with 1:39 left.

Curry was hit on the hand by Butler as he tried a 3-pointer, with the Warriors down three. A foul was called, and Butler argued. That convinced Spoelstra to challenge the call.

"Just kind of went on a leap of faith," Spoelstra said.

It worked. The referees determined Butler hit Curry on the hand after the ball was gone; Butler said he also hit the ball first.

"They had a high-five," referee Bill Kennedy said.

Said Curry: "You've got to be allowed to finish your motion. ... There was a lot of contact. But what do I know about calls?"

The Warriors didn't score again, and lost a game they led by 10 in the second half. Golden State's 20 turnovers were turned into 28 Heat points — three of those turnovers being discontinued dribble calls against Jordan Poole.

AP

Miami Heat guard Max Strus (31) is congratulated by guard Gabe Vincent (2) after Strus scored during the first half of an NBA basketball game against the Golden State Warriors, Tuesday, Nov. 1, 2022, in Miami.

### Bulls 108, Nets 99

In New York, Zach LaVine scored 20 of his 29 points in the fourth quarter, leading the Chicago Bulls to a 108-99 victory over Brooklyn on Tuesday night in the Nets' first game after a coaching change.

The Nets announced Steve Nash was out earlier in the day, then fell to 2-6 with Jacque Vaughn leading them.

Kevin Durant had 32 points and nine rebounds for the Nets, but Kyrie Irving managed only four points on 2-for-12 shooting. He missed all six 3-point attempts.

Vaughn stopped short of equating Irving's struggles to the criticism he's been dealing with since posting a link to a film with antisemitic content on his Twitter account last week.

"The message I told the guys after, no excuses," Vaughn said. "Whether it's back-to-backs, no excuses. Whether the change in scenery today, no excuses. This is what we do for a living. We signed up for it."

### Thunder 116, Magic 108

In Oklahoma City, for a few moments, it seemed like the glory days for the Oklahoma City Thunder.

"MVP! MVP!" chants rained down for a Thunder player late in a win, like they often did during the Kevin Durant/Russell Westbrook era.

This time, the chants were for Shai Gilgeous-Alexander. The new face of the franchise scored 13 of his 34 points in the fourth quarter, and the Thunder rallied from 15 points down in the second half to beat the Orlando Magic 116-108 on Tuesday night for their fourth straight win.

Gilgeous-Alexander made all three of his field goals and 7 of 8 free throws in the fourth quarter. Thunder coach Mark Daigneault said Gilgeous-Alexander, the fifth-year guard who averages 31.5 points, could do even more.

"Great poise," Daigneault said. "That's probably the thing that stands out about that stretch. I still don't think he's playing his best basketball for 48 at least, and I don't think he will (think so) either after tonight. But in the fourth quarter, for sure."

### Suns 116, Timberwolves 107

In Phoenix, Cam Johnson scored 29 points, making seven 3-pointers, and the Phoenix Suns beat the Minnesota Timberwolves 116-107 on Tuesday night for their fifth straight victory.

Johnson finished 7 of 11 behind the arc and 10 for 17 overall in another strong outing for the former reserve who is now in the starting lineup.

"I think he is getting more comfortable with the role, but defensively he was really good," Suns coach Monty Williams said.

The victory was the fifth straight for the Suns (6-1), who won without center Deandre Ayton, sidelined with a sprained right ankle.

Johnson helped pick up his team with Devin Booker having a tough night shooting. Booker still had 18 points but was 2 of 7 from 3-point range and 6 of 18 overall. He did have seven rebounds and five assists.

"Offensively he was really aggressive," Williams said of Johnson. "Everybody was telling him to shoot the ball. He is more than a shooter. He has the ability to make plays. He is a really good passer."

Johnson also had the responsibility of guarding Karl-Anthony Towns.

"That is a challenge I really enjoy," Johnson said. "They play a little bit differently, so being able to execute what we worked on feels pretty good."

# Nash out as Nets coach after poor start, more controversy

**NEW YORK** (AP)—The Brooklyn Nets refused to fire Steve Nash over the summer, no matter what Kevin Durant wanted.

But with the Nets off to a disappointing start amid more controversy surrounding Kyrie Irving, the team and coach both decided the change needed to happen now.

"We both felt this was time," general manager Sean Marks said.

So the Nets parted ways with the Hall of Fame point guard Tuesday, hours before losing to Chicago to drop to 2-6.

Nash made it to this season after Durant said he wanted him out this summer, but not much longer. The Nets have been another mess, with bad play on the court and bad headlines off it.

The biggest — again — was created by Irving, who posted a link to an antisemitic work on his Twitter page last week, drawing criticism from Nets owner Joe Tsai.

Marks said he and Nash had been talking for a week, perhaps more, before arriving at the decision that it was time for change.

"It was certainly trending that way and to be quite frank the team was not doing what it was supposed to be doing," Marks said. "We've fallen from our goals and of meeting our goals and it was time now because we still have lofty aspirations of where we need get to."

Marks said players were not consulted, but Durant said there wouldn't have been any need because everyone knew the situation the Nets were in.

"Let's be real. We're pros, we're veterans," Durant said. "We had a tough start. It was a rocky year last year, rocky summer. We knew that everybody was being evaluated. That's just how it is in the league."

The Nets may move quickly to replace Nash. A person with knowledge of the matter said the Nets were in discussions with suspended Boston coach Ime Udoka — a former Brooklyn assistant who is not with the Celtics this season because he was found to have violated team rules by having a relationship with a female staffer within the organization. The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because those talks were not revealed publicly.

ESPN first reported the talks between Udoka and the Nets. The Nets said a decision on the team's next coach would be made in the near future.

Marks denied that he had decided on a coach and wouldn't give a list of candidates. He also wouldn't discuss whether Udoka would be accepted in Brooklyn so soon after his troubles in Boston.

"But I would say I will reserve that for when those decisions are made and I couldn't give you a timeline on that," Marks said. "Obviously there's a reason why we made this move when we did, because time is ticking. So we do want this process to be a thorough one, we're not going to skip steps on that and then we'll do our due diligence like in any way. When I was hired, when anybody was hired the organization does very, very thorough due diligence on anybody, and you arrive at the best possible outcome."

Nash led the Nets to a 92-62 record and the playoffs in both full seasons, his first as an NBA coach. But they lost Irving and James Harden to injuries during their second-round loss to Milwaukee in 2021, then were a first-round flop last season after trading Harden during the middle of the season.

Much of the Nets' problems during the latter season were caused by Irving being unavailable for most of their home games because he refused to get vaccinated for the coronavirus, as mandated at the time in New York City.

Nash handled it all as best as possible, but apparently not good enough for his best player. Durant said he wanted to be traded this summer if the Nets didn't fire Marks and Nash, but Tsai stood by them and Durant eventually pulled back his request.

Nash downplayed that before this season began, saying he didn't believe the reports were entirely true and that they had quickly talked through their issues.

But things started poorly this season and Nash gave some of his hardest criticism of the team during his tenure after their loss to Indiana on Saturday night, calling their defensive effort a "disaster" and saying he didn't see desire or will.

"We have to look deep, deep inside ourselves and what we want to do, what we want to accomplish," Nash said. "Do we want to give up on this because it's been difficult early, or do we want to stay the course and start to build something?"

Much of that was ignored because the focus was on Irving's combative news conference defending his tweet, and the Nets beat the Pacers in the rematch Monday to end a four-game skid.

But Nash's tenure ended anyway a day later, hours before Brooklyn is set to host Chicago. Jacque Vaughn served as acting head coach against the Bulls.

Tsai alluded to the constant turbulence around the team in his statement thanking Nash.

"My admiration and respect for him grew over time as he brought hard work and positive attitude to our organization every day, even in periods of exceptional storm surrounding the team," Tsai said.

Nash thanked the Tsai family and Marks for giving him the opportunity, calling the job "an amazing experience with many challenges that I'm incredibly grateful for."

Marks chose his former teammate as coach in 2020 despite no experience in the job, citing Nash's ability to be a connector of personalities as a player. Nash was a two-time MVP with the Phoenix Suns who ended his 18-year career third on the NBA's list with 10,335 assists.

But his schemes were criticized as the Nets struggled defensively throughout his tenure and often didn't show the ball-moving style of play on offense that his Suns teams did, instead relying on Durant, Irving or Harden to isolate.

Beyond the player changes, Nash also had to adapt to changes on his bench. Mike D'Antoni, the two-time NBA Coach of the Year, stepped down as his assistant after one season, and Udoka left to become coach of the Celtics.

# Kanoa FC outshines Paire FC in men's soccer

By LEIGH GASES
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CORRESPONDENT

Kanoa Football Club outshone Paire Football Club by defeating them, 3-1, last Sunday during the Marianas Soccer League Fall 2022 Division A game at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

A case of mistaken identity caused a slip up as Paire's Leith Poole scored in his team's goal, to add a goal for Kanoa. Kanoa's Andrew Omelau took advantage and scored one more goal for good measure and eventually defeated Paire.

### TanHoldings FC 1, U17 NT 0

TanHoldings managed to put one up against the U17 NT, 1-0.

Ronnel Ocanada scored the lone goal.

### Chang Bai Hu 1, WNT Developmental Team 1

The Chang Bai Hu and WNT Developmental Team ended their game in a 1-1 draw in their Division B game.

Weiping Cheng scored for Chang Bai Hu and Jannah Casarino scored for the WNT team.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Kanoa Football Club players, in orange, in action against Paire FC in the Marianas Soccer League held at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville

### U17 NT 5, Eleven Tiger FC 1

In the week prior, the U17 NT team won against Eleven Tiger, 5-1.

Anthony Bergancia scored two goals, while Markus Toves, Jonne Navarro, and Mark Costales scored one goal each.

The lone goal from Eleven Tiger was made by Tanapon Unsa.

### Hana FC 4, WNT Developmental Team 0

### TanHoldings FC 4, Paire 0

Hana Football Club and TanHoldings both silenced their opponents with mirrored results, 4-0.

Ace Lee was the ace player for Hana as he completed the hat-trick, with teammate Don Cabrera adding the fourth goal for their win against the WNT team.

TanHoldings' Brandon Tenorio, Jireh Yobech, Taka Borja, and R.J. Narvaez made up the goals for the team.

### Matansa FC 3, Chang Bai Hu forfeit

Matansa Football Club defeated Chang Bai Hu via forfeit.

# Koblerville-1, GTC-1 still on top; Tinian sweep opener

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Koblerville Elementary School-1 and Gregorio T. Camacho ES-1 are still unbeaten, while Tinian ES was impressive it its debut, as the co-ed elementary division games in the IT&E Interscholastic Basketball League 2022-2023 Season continued last Saturday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

Koblerville-1 improved to a 3-0 record for the lead in Pool A following a 30-20 victory over Gregorio T. Camacho ES-2. GTC-1 also had a double-digit win over Saipan International School-2, 30-0, to for a 3-0 mark and the solo lead in Pool B. Tinian, on the other hand, had a pair of matches in its season debut and prevailed in both, beating Grace Christian Academy, 16-6, and Kagman Elementary School, 13-5.

Tinian had five different players making it to the board to down Kagman. The Marlins had a good start, but misfired in the second half, failing to score to drop their season opener. For Tinian's second game, the visiting team had another balanced offense to top GCA. Three Tinian players made at least two baskets apiece to outclass the Eagles, who kicked off their campaign this season with a 26-7 triumph over Rota's Sinapalo Elementary School.

GCA, Tinian, Sinapalo, Kagman, and Brilliant Star School are in Pool C of the round-robin regular season.

In Pool A, Logan Daniel sizzled for 20 points to lift Koblerville-1 to a 10-point win against GTC-2. The Koblerville-1 and GTC-2 tiff was a nip-and-tuck game in the first half with the opposing teams in a deadlock, before Daniel took over in the second. Daniel made 14 markers in the second half.

In other Pool A games, William S. Reyes ES-1 edged Garapan ES-2, 13-12, while SIS-1 got an easy win over San Vicente ES-2 (forfeit).

WSR-1 built enough cushion in the first half, leading GES-2, 8-2, to survive the Mallards' rally in the second. WSR-1 is also unbeaten in Pool A with its 2-0 slate.

In Pool B, Dayton Marchadesch and Debron Saures scored 10 points apiece to lead GTC-1's rout of SIS-2 and give their team a perfect 3-0 record.

Not far behind GTC-1 at second place in Pool B are WSR-2 and Koblerville-2. WSR-2 hammered San Vicente-1, 19-1, for a 2-1 mark, which Koblerville-2 matched following a similar 21-5 demolition of GES-1.

Four Koblerville-2 players delivered at least two baskets apiece for the Umangs to whip the hapless GES-1, which failed to buy a single field goal in the one-sided match. In another lopsided affair, Elijah Taman made 8 points to hand WSR-2 the easy victory against San Vicente.

In Pool C, BSS and Kagman managed to take home a win in their season debuts last weekend. Brilliant Star defeated Sinapalo, 10-4, while Kagman outdueled BSS in the last match of the day, 14-8.

## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

### NBA STANDINGS

**EASTERN CONFERENCE**

**Atlantic Division**

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Boston | 4 | 2 | .667 | — |
| Toronto | 4 | 3 | .571 | ½ |
| Philadelphia | 4 | 4 | .500 | 1 |
| New York | 3 | 3 | .500 | 1 |
| Brooklyn | 2 | 6 | .250 | 3 |

**Southeast Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Atlanta | 4 | 3 | .571 | — |
| Washington | 3 | 4 | .429 | 1 |
| Charlotte | 3 | 4 | .429 | 1 |
| Miami | 3 | 5 | .375 | 1½ |
| Orlando | 1 | 7 | .125 | 3½ |

**Central Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Milwaukee | 6 | 0 | 1.000 | — |
| Cleveland | 5 | 1 | .833 | 1 |
| Chicago | 4 | 4 | .500 | 3 |
| Indiana | 3 | 5 | .375 | 4 |
| Detroit | 2 | 6 | .250 | 5 |

**WESTERN CONFERENCE**

**Southwest Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| San Antonio | 5 | 2 | .714 | — |
| New Orleans | 4 | 2 | .667 | ½ |
| Memphis | 4 | 3 | .571 | 1 |
| Dallas | 3 | 3 | .500 | 1½ |
| Houston | 1 | 7 | .125 | 4½ |

**Northwest Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Portland | 5 | 1 | .833 | — |
| Utah | 6 | 2 | .750 | — |
| Minnesota | 4 | 4 | .500 | 2 |
| Denver | 4 | 3 | .571 | 1½ |
| Oklahoma City | 4 | 3 | .571 | 1½ |

**Pacific Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Phoenix | 6 | 1 | .857 | — |
| Golden State | 3 | 5 | .375 | 3½ |
| L.A. Clippers | 3 | 4 | .429 | 3 |
| Sacramento | 2 | 4 | .333 | 3½ |
| L.A. Lakers | 1 | 5 | .167 | 4½ |

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## GUALO

From Page 20

in dispatching Garapan, 55-28, in the U13 age group.

Oleai got off to a jack rabbit start as they left Garapan biting their dust and entered intermission with a sizeable 23-13 spread.

Garapan continued to grope for form in the second half and Oleai just kept puncturing the hoop from every direction to finish the game running away.

Payton Basa was spectacular for the 1-0 Oleai squad with 19 points, while Theo and D.J. Joab supported him with 16 and 14 points, respectively.

The 0-2 Garapan team was spearheaded by the 8 points of Lance Laxamana and the 6 points of Leon Galarse.

In the women's division, San Vicente made it back-to-back wins as national player Destiny Pangelinan rained down triple after triple to almost single-handedly beat San Antonio, 38-28.

Pangelinan and company actually were in a dogfight of sorts against the southsiders in the first half, which they led only by a candlestick, 19-18.

But come the start of the second half, it was full steam ahead for San Vicente as Pangelinan just couldn't be stopped.

Pangelinan shot the lights out with 25 points, including five triples, to lead San Vicente. Center Angel Roligat added 7 markers in support.

San Antonio, which dropped its second straight game, was led by the 8 points of Mia Abuan and the 6 points of Kaitlyn Chavez.

The 2022 Marianas Village Pride Basketball League is being run by the Northern Mariana Islands Basketball Federation.

### First Game

**Oleai 55** – Basa 19, T. Joab 16, D. Joab 14, Saures 6.

**Garapan 28** – Laxamana 8, Galarse The 6, Mercado 4, Tenorio 4, Neric 4, Demapan 2.

**Scoring by halves:** 23-13, 55-28.

### Second Game

**San Vicente 38** – Pangelinan 25, Roligat 7, Ramos 4, Deleon Guerrero 2.

**San Antonio 28** – Abuan 8, Chavez 6, Az. Fatialofa 6, Navarro 3, Hix 2, Aa. Fatialofa 2.

**Scoring by halves:** 19-18, 38-28.

### Third Game

**Gualo Rai 68** – Aldan 15, Padayao 15, Naraja 14, Garcia 7, Cepeda 4, Sasamoto 4, Hernandez 4, Borja 3, Konman 2.

**San Antonio 39** – Lerio 8, Capalad 7, Lucero 5, Diaz 4, Defang 4, Regalado 3, Pineda 2, Mercado 2, Navarro 2.

**Scoring by halves:** 35-17, 68-39.

## SIS

From Page 20

The Torchbearers' May Kim, Joanna Zhang, Joyce Ying, Daniel Yang, Raffy Cai, Daniel Song, and Danny Cheng swept Chacha Oceanview Middle School and Tinian Jr./Sr High School for the complete 15 points in both games; the Torchbearers then won 13-2 against HMS 1, and narrowly won against Francisco M. Sablan Middle School, 9-6.

Second to the Torchbearers in their bracket is FMS with 48 points and Tinian in third place with 39 points; HMS 1 is next with 26 points, CCOVMS has eight, and Dan-Dan Middle School has seven.

The last round-robin games are scheduled for this Saturday, Nov. 5, with another match up of six schools. The finals are scheduled for Nov. 12.

## REDMEN

From Page 20

Hagu La'mun wasted no time as they made the first inning a 15-run inning. Meanwhile, Momma Charo only had seven runs by the end of the second inning.

Joe Celis led the La'mun with his two home runs that brought in four RBIs.

It was all she wrote as the game ended when Momma Charo could only put up one more run against La'mun's six more.

Hagu Lamun improved to 10-5, while Momma Charo dropped to 6-9.

### Asahi 13, Peleliu 4

Asahi spun Peleliu around as they beat them, 13-4.

Asahi pitcher Dominic Hideo's lucky number was four that day as he dominated and shut down Peleliu with four scoreless innings and only had four runs against him.

Hideo's offense provided the winning ammunition as they brought in five runs in the second inning, six runs in the fifth inning, and one run each in two innings.

With this win, Asahi is now at 8-7 and Peleliu is at .500 at 7-7.

### Sufa 9, Tokahao 6

Tokahao and Sufa broke their tie in the standings when the former defeated the latter, 9-6.

It was a tough battle against the pitcher's mound as both offenses couldn't catch a break with two scoreless innings from Sufa and four for Tokahao.

However, Sufa found a chip in Tokahao's pitching during the third inning to score six runs. Sufa managed to score three more and secure the win.

Sufa remained atop the standings at 11-4, while Tokahao remained at 10 wins while getting marked with its fifth loss.

### Man Amigos 11, Aimeliik 4

Aimeliik almost could not hit against Man Amigos as they went scoreless in five innings. They only scored three of their four runs in the third inning.

Man Amigos' Pete Sablan and Eric Palacios scored a home run each and brought in five of the 11 runs for the team.

The Amigos are at 10 wins and four losses, while Aimeliik is at 3-11.

Harper, Phillies tie World Series mark with 5 HR, top Astros

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# Gualo Rai throttles San Antonio in U18

MARK RABAGO
Gualo Rai's Leo Naraja attacks the basket against San Antonio's Slymark Defang, left, and Mike Mercado Jr. in their U18 division game of the 2022 Marianas Village Pride Basketball League last Saturday at the Gillette Multi-Purpose Gymnasium in Gualo Rai.

## Redmen smacks Salty Boys, 26-11

LEIGH GASES
Ngaraard Redmen are seen in action in one of their games during the 2022 Budweiser Belau Amateur Softball Association League at the DanDan Softball field.

By LEIGH GASES
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CORRESPONDENT

Ngaraard Redmen smacked the Salty Boys into oblivion in their 26-11 game last Sunday in the continuation of the 2022 Budweiser Belau Amateur Softball Association League at the DanDan Softball Field.

The Boys, who have yet to notch a win this season, started off the game with four runs as they tried to clinch at least one W. However, the Redmen had the upper hand as just two innings in, they already scored 10 runs.

The Boys' pitcher could not handle the outbreak of hits and his batters could not catch up either once the floodgates burst wide open in the fourth inning when the Redmen brought in seven runs.

Ton Pangelinan scored the Redmen's lone homerun and brought in three RBIs. Teammate Mike Tomokane brought in a whopping seven RBIs.

In the end, despite the Boys' efforts, they tasted defeat once again through the 10-run mercy rule as they were handed their 15th loss in as many games. The Redmen's record is now 8-6.

### Hagu La'mun 21, Momma Charo 8

Hagu La'mun defeated Momma Charo, 21-8 in another mercy-ruled game.

See REDMEN on Page 19

MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Gualo Rai made an auspicious debut after routing San Antonio, 68-39, in the U18 division of the 2022 Marianas Village Pride Basketball League last Saturday at the Gillette Multi-Purpose Gymnasium in Gualo Rai.

National players Leo Naraja and Lucio Aldan made their presence felt early to help Gualo Rai jump to a huge lead in the first 20 minutes of action.

After a 35-17 deficit in the first half, things would only go from bad to worse for San Antonio, as high-flying Craig Padayao joined the scoring parade in the second half to help Gualo Rai cruise to the 29-point win.

San Antonio's offensive sputtered all game and its total points in the match (39) was just 4 points off Gualo Rai's halftime output (35).

Aldan and Padayao paced all scorers with 15 markers apiece, while Naraja chipped in 14 points of his own for the 1-0 Gualo Rai squad.

San Antonio, which absorbed its second loss in as many games, was led by the 8 points of Lance Lerio and the 7 points of M.J. Capalad.

In the first game, Oleai mirrored Gualo Rai's dominance

See GUALO on Page 19

## SIS continues dominance in MS badminton

By LEIGH GASESx
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CORRESPONDENT

The Saipan International School Geckos again swept their badminton games in Bracket 2 during their second round-robin game of the TakeCare-Public School System Interscholastic Badminton League last Saturday at the TSL Sports Complex.

The Geckos' Nara Kim, Lina Tsukagoshi, Frank Li, Allen He, Michael Zhou, and Jason Yu defeated five consecutive schools in a complete sweep of all five events—boys and girls singles, boys and girls doubles, and mixed doubles.

First place in their bracket, the Geckos wiped the floor squeaky clean with a sweep of Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Jr.-Sr. High School, Saipan Community School, Tanapag Middle School, Mount Carmel School, and Hopwood Middle School 2, for the complete 75 points.

Second place in Bracket 2 is HMS 2 with 49 points, followed by TMS with 39 points, SCS with 32 points, and Dr. Rita and MCS with zero points.

Over in Bracket 1, the Agape Christian School Torchbearers is in first place with 52 points.

See SIS on Page 19

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
A Saipan International School player gets ready to serve during the TakeCare-Public School System Interscholastic Badminton League last Saturday at the TSL Sports Complex.